



## MONSTER WAVES POUND UK COAST AFTER US STORMS

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## IRAN URGED TO USE ITS INFLUENCE WITH SYRIA HEAD ASSAD

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# Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: +297 582-7800 Tuesday, January 7, 2014

## FRIGID WEATHER CRIPPLES US AIR TRAVEL SYSTEMS

JAD MOUAWAD

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The chaos in the nation's air travel system worsened Monday as freezing temperatures, snow and ice blanketed much of the country, causing airlines to cancel thousands of flights and stranding passengers from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to Los Angeles.



A man looks at a flight departure board filled with cancellations and delays at Logan Airport, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, in Boston.

(AP Photo/Charles Krupa)

The biggest impact was in the Northeast and the Midwest, where polar weather swooped in.

Airlines canceled 4,400 flights on Monday, bringing the total to more than 17,000 over the last week, according to FlightStats.com, a flight information website.

The delays, occurring during one of the busiest travel periods of the year, marooned thousands of people trying to return home from holiday trips, begin a new school term, or get back to work.

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## CONFIRMED



Janet Yellen stands before the Senate on Capitol Hill, in Washington. Yellen was approved by the Senate on Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, as the first woman to head the Federal Reserve in its 100-year history.

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

## Senate Picks Yellen To Chair Federal Reserve

ALAN FRAM

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Senate confirmed Janet Yellen on Monday as the first woman to lead the Federal Reserve, elevating an advocate of fighting unemployment and a backer of the central bank's efforts to spur the economy with low interest rates and massive bond purchases. Yellen, 67, will replace Ben Bernanke, who is stepping down after serving as chair-

man for eight years dominated by the Great Recession and the Fed's efforts to combat it.

Senators confirmed her by 56-26, with numerous absences caused by airline flight delays forced by arctic temperatures around much of the country.

All 45 voting Democrats were joined by 11 Republicans in supporting Yellen, while 26 Republicans voted "no."

Vice chair of the Fed since

2010, Yellen begins her four-year term as leader of the century-old bank on Feb. 1. With the economy rebounding from the depths of the recession but only modestly so far, many economists expect her to focus on how to nurture growth without putting it into overdrive, which could risk fueling inflation.

"The big debate will be when the Fed should tighten and how much, rather than when to step on the

gas pedal and how hard," predicted Bill Cheney, chief economist for John Hancock Financial Services, who envisions a growing economy this year.

Under Bernanke, the Fed has driven short-term interest rates down to near zero and flushed money into the economy with huge bond purchases, which it had just started to ease towards the end of 2013.

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# Monster waves pound UK coast

**LONDON (AP)** — Waves up to 27 feet (8.2 meters) high slammed into Britain's southwestern coast on Monday, as lashing winds and heavy rain battered parts of the U.K. and coastal residents braced for another round of flooding. The monster waves were recorded at Land's End, the southwestern tip of the U.K. In Aberystwyth in Wales, seafront homes, businesses and student residence halls were evacuated as high tides hit the Welsh coast.

The Met Office, Britain's weather forecasting body, warned of wind gusts up to 70 mph (113 kph) and exceptionally large waves along the coasts of Wales, southwest England and Northern Ireland. It said the storm is loosely connected to the weather system that caused the U.S. winter storm, which dumped large amounts of snow in the Northeast and delayed thousands of flights. "A very strong jet stream helped to steer a lot of low pressure across the U.K.,"

said forecaster Charles Powell. At least seven people have died in a wave of stormy weather that has battered Britain since December, including a man killed when his mobility scooter fell into a river in Oxford, southern England. The Environment Agency issued three severe flood warnings Monday — meaning there is a threat to life and property — for the county of Dorset in southwestern England, as well as more than 300 less serious flood alerts. □



People watch and photograph enormous waves as they break, on Porthcawl harbour, South Wales, Monday Jan. 6, 2014. Residents along Britain's coasts are braced for more flooding as strong winds, rain and high tides lash the country. At least three people have died in a wave of stormy weather that has battered Britain since last week, including a man killed when his mobility scooter fell into a river in Oxford, southern England.

(AP Photo/PA, Ben Birchall)

## Pope reaches out to 'indifferent' Catholics

**VATICAN CITY (AP)** — Pope Francis offered another gesture to Catholics who are estranged from the church, saying Monday he respects them but that God is waiting for them. Francis made the comments after he celebrated Epiphany, a major Catholic feast day that recalls the visit to the infant Jesus Christ by three kings. "I would like to tell all those who feel far from God and

the church — and I say this respectfully to those who are afraid or indifferent: The Lord calls you and wants you to be part of his people and does so with great respect and love!" Francis said. "The Lord doesn't proselytize, he gives love and this love looks for you, waits for you — for you who don't believe or have drifted away. This is the love of God."

Francis has made a priority of reaching out to atheists and Catholics marginalized by their church, particularly gays. He has tasked priests, bishops and cardinals with going out to preach on the margins of society and not wait for the faithful to come back to the church. Francis himself is leaving the Vatican on Monday to go visit a Rome church where parishioners are acting out Jesus' nativity scene. □

## CARIBBEAN NEWS BRIEFS

### Venezuela Embassy in St. Kitts torched

**BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (AP)** — Police in St. Kitts and Nevis say fires that destroyed the Venezuelan Embassy and damaged offices of the Organization of American States were both intentionally set. Inspector Lyndon David says two suspects are in custody but no charges have been filed. David said in an interview Monday that the motive for the fires is unknown. The fires broke in the pre-dawn darkness Sunday in Basseterre, the capital of the two-island Caribbean nation. No one was injured in either fire. The Venezuelan Embassy was reduced to charred rubble while the OAS office sustained only minor damage. □

### Jamaica boosts minimum wage by 12%

**KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)** — Jamaica has boosted its minimum wage by 12 percent as the local currency continues to lose value and inflation rises. Minimum-wage workers will earn nearly \$53 for a 40-hour week. They now earn \$47. Security guards for private companies will also see their weekly wages increase by 12 percent, from \$69 to \$77. The new policy took effect Monday. Labor Minister Derrick Kellier announced the impending changes on Dec. 17. Some security companies and other employers have expressed frustration with the move. Employers found to be violating the wage law can be fined nearly \$950 per infraction.

### Man charged in slaying of Ohio tourist

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — Authorities in Puerto Rico have charged a man suspected in the slaying of a tourist from Ohio. Homicide police said in a statement that Juan Carela Acevedo has been charged in the fatal stabbing of 41-year-old Brett Walquist of Beavercreek, Ohio. They announced his arrest over the weekend. Police say Walquist was killed on Dec. 30 when an assailant broke into a vacation apartment complex in Rincon, a western beach town. Walquist apparently walked in on the intruder in the kitchen and was stabbed at least three times during a struggle in the middle of the night. Acevedo is being held in the city of Aguadilla. □

### Police charge two in lottery scam probe

**KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)** — Police in Jamaica have charged two young men with alleged involvement in the Caribbean country's lucrative lottery scam. A 19-year-old car mechanic and a 20-year-old farmer have been arrested by police in the town of Black River in the southern parish of St. Elizabeth. They were each charged with possession of identity information after officers allegedly found them with lists with names, addresses, Social Security numbers and other personal details of residents of the United States. Police said the men are due to appear in court on Wednesday. Victims who fall for this scam are later harassed for more money. □

### Puerto Rico to probe \$34M in bonuses

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — The president of Puerto Rico's Senate is requesting that legislators investigate why the state-owned power company recently awarded nearly \$34 million in bonuses amid an economic crisis. Eduardo Bhatia said this weekend that he regrets public funds were used for what he called unjustified bonuses. □



## US Supreme Court puts Utah same-sex marriages on hold

BRADY McCOMBS  
MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** — The Supreme Court on Monday put same-sex marriages on hold in the conservative state of Utah, at least while a federal appeals court more fully considers the issue. The court issued a brief order blocking any new same-sex unions in the western state.

The order grants an emergency appeal by the state following the Dec. 20 ruling by U.S. District Judge Robert Shelby that the state's ban on same-sex marriage violates gay and lesbian couples' constitutional rights. More than 900 gay and lesbian couples have married since then and now the state is trying to determine whether those marriages are still valid, Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes said. He said he didn't know when they'd make a determination, saying they don't want to rush an important legal decision.

"This is precisely the uncertainty we were hoping to avoid by requesting the stay," Reyes said. "It's unfortunate that many Utah citizens have been put into this legal limbo."

The Supreme Court's unsigned order did not reveal anything about the justices' views on same-sex marriage. The high court order will remain in effect until the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decides whether to uphold Shelby's ruling.

Nearly two-thirds of Utah's 2.8 million residents are members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Mormons dominate the state's legal and political circles.

Though the church has softened its stance toward gays and lesbians in recent years, it still teaches that homosexual activity is a sin and stands by its support for "traditional marriage." Church officials say they hope a higher court validates its belief that marriage is between a man and woman.

The action now shifts to Denver, where the appeals court will consider arguments from the state against same-sex marriage as well as from the three gay and lesbian couples who challenged the ban in support of Shelby's ruling. Shelby and the appeals court had previously rebuffed the state's plea to stop gay weddings pending appeal.

The 10th Circuit has set short deadlines for both sides to file their written arguments, with the state's first brief due on January 27. No date for argument has been set yet.

Utah changed its constitution to prohibit same-sex marriage in 2004.

Shelby was the first federal judge to overturn a state marriage ban since the high court issued two decisions on same-sex marriage in June.

The justices at that time struck down a provision of the federal Defense of Marriage Act that prevented legally married gay and lesbian couples from receiving a range of tax, health, pension and other federal benefits.

Shelby cited the decision in his ruling that the state failed to show that allowing same-sex marriages would affect opposite-sex marriages in any way.

"In the absence of such evidence, the State's unsupported fears and speculations are insufficient to justify the State's refusal to dignify the family relationships of its gay and lesbian citizens," Shelby wrote.

On the same day, the court left in place a trial court's decision that struck down California's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. That decision paved the way for same-sex unions to resume in California. □

## Frigid weather cripples air travel

Continued from Front

Fans of Florida State and Auburn scrambled to find their way to Pasadena, Calif., for college football's national championship game at the Rose Bowl on Monday night.

to get its crew and planes in position for a fresh start Tuesday.

The delays are expected to continue for days, since airlines now operate on a much tighter schedule, leaving them with little slack, and few spare planes, to rebook passen-

are increasingly common. In 2012, Hurricane Sandy forced airlines to cancel more than 20,000 flights over a four-day period, mostly in the Northeast. But with the hub-and-spoke nature of the modern airline business, and the growing consolidation of the in-



Jiwon Koh, of South Korea, looks at her iPhone as she props up her feet on her luggage at the United Airlines ticket counter after her flight home was cancelled, at Logan Airport, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, in Boston. Heavy rains in the East, and sub-zero temperatures in the Midwest, created havoc for airlines and travel plans.

(AP Photo/Charles Krupa)

The disruptions came as new federal regulations giving more rest time for airline pilots began Jan. 1. While crippling weather was the main cause of the delays, at least one airline, JetBlue Airways, cited the new rules for making a bad situation even worse.

The airline said Monday that it had suspended all flights in and out of Boston and the three main New York-area airports for 17 hours in anticipation of the latest cold wave in order

gers on future flights.

One traveler, Courtney Morrissey, said she was supposed to start a new job Monday in Denver but has been stuck in Rochester since last Thursday after three different flights she had rebooked were canceled. She is now scheduled to fly on Wednesday. "I am not holding my breath," Morrissey said. "Every time they put me on a new flight now, I expect that to be canceled."

Widespread cancellations

dust, the ripple effects of these touch every corner of the country.

JetBlue stopped all service from 5 p.m. Monday to 10 a.m. Tuesday from Logan Airport in Boston and from Kennedy International, La Guardia and Newark Liberty International Airport in the New York area. The airline warned of the effect of new Federal Aviation Administration regulations that require pilots to be given more rest time before and after flights. □

### Judge:

## Chicago's ban on gun sales unconstitutional

**CHICAGO (AP)** — A federal judge has ruled that Chicago's ban on the sale of firearms is unconstitutional. Judge Edmond E. Chang issued his ruling Monday in a lawsuit by the Illinois Association of Firearms Retailers and three Chicago residents.

Chang noted Chicago's

ban not only covers federally licensed firearms dealers, but also gifts among family members, all in the name of reducing gun violence.

Chang said a fundamental duty of government is to protect its citizens. However, he said it's also obligated to protect fundamental

rights named in the Constitution, including the right to keep and bear arms for self-defense.

The judge said Chicago's ordinance goes too far in outright banning legal buyers and dealers from engaging in lawful acquisitions and lawful sales of firearms. □





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# Senate Picks Yellen To Chair Federal Reserve

**Continued from Front**

Yellen, a strong Bernanke ally, has supported those policies and is expected to continue them until concrete signs emerge of sustained improvement of the economy and job market. A native of Brooklyn, New York, Yellen previously headed the Federal Reserve Bank of San Fran-

cisco, chaired President Bill Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers and has been an economics professor at the University of California at Berkeley. Yellen, who as an academic has focused on unemployment and its causes, is considered a "dove" who wants the Fed more focused on creating jobs because unemployment is high and inflation is low.

"Hawks" on these issues prefer a stronger emphasis on preventing inflation. In brief debate on her nomination, Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown, lauded Yellen, who was one of the first to warn in 2007 of a housing bubble that could burst and damage the entire economy. "She understands how risky financial practices deep inside the largest Wall Street

banks can have a terrible and terrifying impact on American families," Brown said. But Republican Sen. Charles Grassley criticized Yellen for supporting the Fed's "easy money" policies of low interest rates and bond purchases. "No one can deny that the risks are real and could be devastating" if those policies continue for too long,

Grassley said. Yellen's Republican critics have said the Fed has inflated stock and real estate prices by pumping money into the markets, creating investment bubbles that could burst and wound the economy anew. Some also warn that as the Fed starts to trim its bond holdings, it could spook financial markets, threatening the economy's recovery by causing stock prices to drop and interest rates to rise.

Last month, the Fed announced that it will start gradually reducing its \$85 billion in monthly bond purchases, trimming them back initially to \$75 billion this month and taking "further measured steps" as economic conditions improve.

But the Fed also indicated that it will keep supporting an economy that it considers less than fully healthy. It said it will continue to keep interest rates low and try to boost unusually low inflation, which can slow spending and borrowing. President Barack Obama nominated Yellen in October after considering selecting Lawrence Summers, a former Treasury secretary who had been a close Obama adviser early in his presidency. Summers withdrew after opponents complained about his temperament and past support for bank deregulation. Obama called Yellen a "proven leader" and hailed her frequent focus on the unemployed, saying, "She understands the human cost when people can't find a job."

She will be the first Fed chair appointed by a Democratic president since Paul Volcker, who was appointed by President Jimmy Carter, left the post in 1987. Yellen will preside over her first Fed meetings as chair on March 18 and 19.



Janet Yellen faces photographers at a her nomination hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington. Yellen was approved by the Senate on Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, as the first woman to head the Federal Reserve in its 100-year history.

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

## Former FCC chief joins Carlyle Group

**WILLIAM ALDEN**  
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The former chairman of the Federal Communications Commission has taken a senior role at the Carlyle Group, a big private equity firm with longstanding connections in Washington. Julius Genachowski, who was chairman of the FCC until last May, joins Carlyle as a managing director and partner in the U.S. buyout group, the firm said Monday. Genachowski, a

proponent of a free and open Internet, will work on investments in the technology, media and telecommunications sectors, including the Internet and mobile. In moving to private equity, Genachowski, 51, follows a well-worn path for former government officials who go to work in the private sector. Timothy F. Geithner, a former Treasury secretary, is expected to join the private equity firm Warburg Pincus as president in

March. Last year, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts hired David H. Petraeus, who resigned as director of the CIA in 2012, as chairman of the KKR Global Institute. Carlyle, which is based in Washington, has hired a number of Beltway insiders over the years, including an additional former FCC chairman, William E. Kennard, who spent eight years at the firm after leaving the commission in 2001. Last year, Carlyle hired Barrett

Karr, majority staff director of the House Education and Workforce Committee, to lead its U.S. government affairs.

"Technology-driven change is creating real opportunities in the U.S. and around the world - in Internet and mobile and cloud and media," Genachowski said in an interview Monday. "Going back to building businesses and investing in the space is something I was looking to do."



## 'Jihad Jane' gets 10 years prison

MARYCLAIRE DALE

Associated Press

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — A U.S. woman involved in a plot to kill a Swedish artist who had offended Muslims has been sentenced to 10 years in prison after telling a judge she was once obsessed with jihad.

Fifty-year-old Colleen LaRose had called herself "Jihad Jane" online and agreed in 2009 to kill artist Lars Vilks over his series of drawings depicting the prophet Muhammad as a dog. Vilks was never attacked.

LaRose faced a potential life term. But the judge ac-



This 1997 booking photo shows Colleen R. LaRose, also known as Jihad Jane. (AP Photo)

cepted a government request to reduce the sentence because of her extensive cooperation with investigators.

Prosecutors still asked for decades in prison, saying she remains dangerous.

Both sides agree that LaRose was isolated and endured harsh abuse throughout her life.

Defense lawyers called her the perfect target after a childhood marked by rape, incest, hunger and alcoholism at home. Her marriages were marked by abuse, and she came to use crystal meth and other drugs, public defender Mark Wilson said.

LaRose told the judge she became obsessed with jihad, saying she was "in a trance" and thought about it from morning to night.

"I don't want to be into jihad no more," she said.

Vilks told The Associated Press that he understands the principle of handing out tough sentences for terror crimes to deter others, but he said he felt the sentence against La Rose was too harsh. "To lock her up for so many years seems like overkill to me," Vilks said. "This is a person who has been through a lot of difficulties in her life and needs mental care more than anything else."

Vilks said the threat level against him remains high, but he has round-the-clock protection that makes him feel safe. Muslim extremists in Iraq had offered a \$100,000 reward for anyone who killed Vilks.

LaRose could be out of prison in a little over four years, given the more than four years she has already served and the potential for time off for good behavior.

The Justice Department said Ali Charaf Damache, who was living in Ireland, recruited LaRose and another U.S. woman via jihadist websites.

Damache married the other woman, Jamie Paulin-Ramirez, on the day she arrived in Ireland.

LaRose left the terror cell in Ireland after about six weeks because she "grew frustrated because her co-conspirators were not ready for action," Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer Arbittier Williams said Monday.

LaRose returned to the U.S. in 2009 to surrender, becoming one of the few women ever charged in the country with terrorist activities. Her arrest was kept secret and the indictment was unsealed only after Paulin-Ramirez and the six others were rounded up in Ireland months later. Paulin-Ramirez and another co-defendant, teen Mohammad Hassan Khalid, are scheduled to be sentenced this week.

Public defender Mark Wilson said LaRose has come to understand the true, peaceful tenets of Islam and said "there's virtually no chance that she would ever be involved in violent jihad ever again." □

## California:

## Arrest made in Chinese consulate fire

SCOTT SMITH

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — The FBI announced Monday the arrest of a Chinese national in the investigation of a fire set intentionally at the Chinese Consulate in San Francisco.

an alleged motive, saying the investigation is ongoing. But Johnson said the FBI does not believe terrorism, politics or civil rights were involved. "Right now, we're looking at this as purely a criminal matter," he said. No one was hurt in the

were found.

Consulate spokesman Wang Chuan has condemned the attack and would not speculate on a motive.

In March 2008, a group of people poured flammable liquid on a security gate at



San Francisco Police Chief Greg Suhr, right, speaks to reporters after a news conference in San Francisco, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014. The FBI says a Chinese national has been arrested in the investigation of a fire set intentionally at the Chinese Consulate in San Francisco. Special FBI Agent-in-Charge David J. Johnson said Monday that 39-year-old Yan Feng of Daly City was arrested Friday after he called police in the San Francisco suburb. (AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

FBI Special Agent in Charge David J. Johnson said Yan Feng, 39, was arrested Friday after he called police in the San Francisco suburb. The FBI arranged for his surrender.

The suspect, who has permanent resident status, made his first court appearance Monday and was held on charges of causing damage to property of a foreign government and arson, Johnson said.

The FBI did not announce

New Year's Day blaze that charred a doorway and damaged the lobby of the building.

Consulate workers said surveillance cameras showed a person exit a van with two buckets of gasoline, pour the fuel on the building and ignite the blaze. The FBI said Monday they recovered a white mini-van believed to be the one seen in the video.

The FBI said earlier that no bomb-making materials

the rear of the building and set it on fire. No injuries were reported.

That fire came on the day San Francisco supervisors heard public comment on China's human rights record months prior to the start of the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. The issue arose because of the scheduled Olympic torch run through San Francisco.

The FBI said the latest fire was not related to the 2008 blaze. □

## Liz Cheney to quit US Senate bid

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Liz Cheney, daughter of former U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney, is quitting her effort to win a seat in the Senate.

Cheney cited "serious health issues" that "have recently arisen in our family" as the reason for her decision to leave the Republican Wyoming Senate primary. She did not specify the issues. She has five children.

Cheney's effort to replace Senate veteran Mike Enzi angered many Republi-

cans, and her campaign faced a number of problems.

In a statement, Enzi said he and his wife, Diana, "have always believed in putting family first. We have tremendous respect for Liz's decision. She and her entire family are in our thoughts and prayers."

In November, Cheney said she opposed gay marriage, starting a public feud with her sister, Mary, who is a lesbian and married.

In her withdrawal state-

ment, Cheney did not mention those controversies. Her father served as vice president under President George W. Bush. When she announced her campaign, Cheney said it was time for Republicans in Congress to stop "cutting deals" with Democrats.

"In my view, obstructing President Obama's policies and his agenda isn't actually obstruction; it's patriotism," Cheney said. Cheney's decision was first reported by CNN, The New York Times and Politico. □

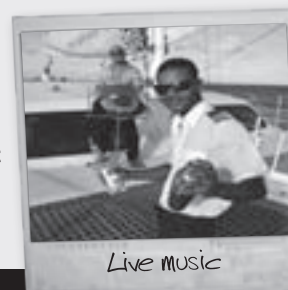


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Fun with friends

# Shotgun weddings fade as cohabitation gains favor

HOPE YEN

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — No longer taboo, living together has become a more common arrangement for America's couples who become pregnant while dat-

ing.

Soon-to-be-released government figures show a major cultural shift since the days of "shotgun weddings" aimed at avoiding family embarrassment. With marriage on the decline,

the shift is helping redefine the traditional notion of family.

"The emergence of cohabitation as an acceptable context for childbearing has changed the family-formation landscape," said

Christina Gibson-Davis, a sociology professor at Duke University. "Individuals still value the idea of a two-parent family but no longer consider it necessary for the parents to be married."

Still, she cautions that children in cohabiting households may face more difficulties growing up if their unmarried parents are at higher risk of breaking up. In all, the share of unmarried couples who opted to have "shotgun cohabitations" — moving in together after a pregnancy — surpassed "shotgun marriages" for the first time over the last decade, according to a forthcoming paper from the National Center for Health Statistics, part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The trend was affirmed by three demographers who conducted separate research on the topic. It's the latest demographic tipping point as cohabitations turn mainstream — a far cry from the days when the father of a

pregnant daughter might use coercion, such as a shotgun, to make sure the boyfriend followed through on a wedding.

"I want to marry when I'm ready, not because I'm being forced into it. Whenever I see couples do that, things don't work out," said Amanda Leigh Pulte, 22, of Austin, Texas, as her 11-month-old daughter Zoey cooed in her arms. Pulte previously had delayed moving in with Matthew Gage, a 29-year-old shipping manager and her boyfriend for three years, wishing to wait until she could earn a bachelor's degree in film and start a full-time job.

An unplanned pregnancy quickly changed that. Completing an associate degree, she agreed to have Gage move in so the couple could work and save on rent while raising Zoey together. Even though they didn't see marriage as a serious option for now — in part to avoid the additional stress of planning and paying for a wedding, she says — neither was having Pulte live on her own as a single mother.

"For a while, my father was kind of shocked about the whole thing, but ultimately he was just excited to be a grandfather," she said with a chuckle. The couple is getting child care tips from the nonprofit Any Baby Can, which also helps them with physical therapy for Zoey, who was born with health ailments.

The numbers are based on the government's National Survey of Family Growth, typically issued every four years. It provides the only government data on cohabiting mothers by asking questions on a woman's relationship status before and after conception and childbirth. □



This photo shows Amanda Leigh Pulte, left, and Matthew Gage, right, posing with their daughter Zoey at their home in Austin. No longer taboo, living together has become a more common arrangement for America's dating couples who unexpectedly become parents.

(AP Photo/Eric Gay)

## Judge: Fund manager's faint no proof of guilt

LARRY NEUMEISTER

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Jurors cannot be told that a former hedge fund portfolio manager fainted when federal agents first confronted him over insider trading allegations, a judge ruled Monday, saying such a "shocking and highly disturbing" encounter could dramatically affect someone regardless of guilt or innocence. U.S. District Judge Paul Gardephe banned evidence about the fainting of Mathew Martoma from a trial that begins Tuesday when prospective jurors fill out questionnaires. Martoma is charged with persuading a medical pro-

fessor to leak secret data from an Alzheimer's disease trial between 2006 and 2008, while Martoma worked at SAC Capital Advisors, the hedge fund company founded by billionaire Steven A. Cohen. Prosecutors say the information enabled other investment professionals at SAC to earn a quarter-billion dollars illegally.

Martoma fainted when FBI agents approached him outside his Boca Raton, Florida, home in 2011, a year before he was arrested. Gardephe said it would not be reasonable for jurors to infer that Martoma fainted because he knew he was guilty of insider trading. "It is just as likely

that he fainted simply from shock, surprise or alarm at being accused of such a serious crime, which could have such a damaging effect on his professional and personal life," he said.

The judge said there was significant risk a jury would give the evidence more value than it deserves as it deliberates charges of conspiracy and securities fraud. Gardephe said it was "likely to be a shocking and highly disturbing event" when a hedge fund industry worker is approached by the FBI and accused of having engaged in insider trading in specific stocks.

"Indeed, the mere accusation could well have an

enormous impact on that person's professional and personal life, and reputation," he wrote. "In the life of such a person — someone with no criminal record and no prior involvement with the criminal justice system — such an encounter is a watershed event."

Martoma was arrested in 2012. He was accused of earning \$9 million in bonuses as he pursued an inside investment edge from more than 20 doctors, including a former professor of neurology at the University of Michigan Medical School who served as chairman of a safety committee overseeing the Alzheimer disease clinical drug trial. □



## US Financial Front:

## American services index slips on sharp fall in orders

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. service companies expanded at a steady but slightly slower pace in December as sales dipped and new orders plunged to a four-year low. The report suggests economic growth may remain modest in the coming months.

The Institute for Supply Management said Monday that its service-sector index fell to 53 last month, down from 53.9 in November. Any reading above 50 indicates expansion.

A measure of new orders plummeted 7 points to 49.4, the first time it has dropped below 50 since July 2009.

A gauge of business stockpiles also fell sharply.

But a gauge of hiring increased 3.3 points to 55.8, evidence that services firms are adding more jobs. That's a good sign for December's jobs report, which will be released Friday. The survey covers businesses that employ 90 percent of the workforce, including retail, construction, health care and financial services firms.

Anthony Nieves, chairman of the ISM's services survey, said the declines in orders and business stockpiles likely occurred after "a little bit of excess" had built up in anticipation of the winter holidays. He expects the orders index to recover in the coming months.

The rise in hiring suggests companies are still "confident enough in the pipeline to add jobs," he added. The drop in new orders would point to slower growth, if it continued, economists said. But most expect the decline will be temporary.

"This will likely prove to



A dish is prepped at the Fig & Olive restaurant, near New York's Rockefeller Center, in New York. The Institute for Supply Management issued its U.S. non-manufacturing index for December on Monday, Jan. 6, 2014.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

be transient, rather than the start of a new trend," said Thomas Feltmate, an economist at TD Bank. "As ... consumer confidence continues to improve, we expect to see an acceleration in consumer spending in 2014, which should prove supportive of future supplier orders."

Other economists noted that severe weather last month could have hampered business for many firms. One company in the arts, entertainment and recreation industry told the ISM that "both customers and employees were unable to reach the workplace" because of bad weather.

Service companies have grown at a modest pace this year. It has averaged 54.7 over the past 12 months. The survey typically tracks growth in consumer spending, which drives

70 percent of economic

growth.

Spending by consumers was restrained for most of last year. But Americans have opened their wallets a bit more in recent months. That could push the index higher in 2014.

Retail sales posted healthy gains in November and December, according to government figures. The biggest increases were at auto dealers, furniture stores, and at electronics and appliance stores.

Those outlets have benefited as Americans have purchased more homes and cars. Online shopping has also grown at a strong pace.

However, traditional retailers, such as department stores and clothing stores, haven't benefited as much. Many were disappointed by this season's holiday sales.

The dip in the services index comes after the ISM said Thursday that its manufacturing index remained near a 2 1/2-year high in November. Measures of new orders and employment grew at a faster pace, pointing to higher output in the coming months.

The economy expanded at a 4.1 percent annual pace in the July-September quarter, buoyed by a big increase in companies' stockpiles. That was the fastest pace in nearly two years. Growth was likely slower in the October-December quarter because inventory building probably didn't boost growth by as much. □



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## Iran urged to use its influence with Assad

**MICHAEL R. GORDON**  
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**BRUSSELS** - Iran could improve its chances of playing at least a limited role in the upcoming peace conference on Syria if it persuaded President Bashar Assad to stop the bombardment of Aleppo and allow the delivery of hu-

day comment. "It may be that there are ways that could happen."

Elaborating on those remarks Monday, a senior State Department official said there were other steps that Iran could take to show it was ready to help end the conflict.

"Those include calling for

any, that Iran might play at the meeting, in consultation with the other nations participating.

The subject of Iran's role will also be discussed when the "London 11," a group of nations that have been supporting the moderate Syrian opposition, convenes in Europe next week.

ing any role.

With a few weeks to go before the conference, one of the officials rated the chances of a Iran participating as "less likely than likely."

The issue raises broad questions about how best to manage the West's relations with Tehran. So far,

## South Korea proposes good first step for improved ties

**CHOE SANG-HUN**  
© 2014 New York Times

**SEOUL, South Korea** - South Korea's president proposed Monday that the two Koreas improve their tense relations by resuming the reunions of families separated since the Korean War, a humanitarian program that seemed close to being renewed last year but was scuttled as negotiations soured.

President Park Geun-hye's overture came five days after the North Korean leader, Kim Jong Un, urged that Seoul and Pyongyang create "a favorable climate for improved relations" in a New Year's Day speech. "I hope that North Korea will create a new opportunity for South-North relations and a framework for dialogue by taking a good first step with family reunions," Park said during a nationally televised news conference. Park, a conservative, made two other conciliatory gestures toward the North, offering to increase humanitarian aid to the impoverished country and to let South Korean civic groups provide assistance to its farmers and ranchers. But she expressed skepticism about the prospect of meeting with Kim, whose government has until recently exhorted South Koreans to overthrow her "fascist dictatorship."

She urged the young North Korean leader to "act, not just talk" to prove his sincerity about better relations. She also said it had become "impossible" to predict "what will happen to the North and what actions it will take" since the purge and execution last month of Kim's uncle, Jang Song Thaek, who was long considered Kim's mentor and the second-highest-ranking figure in his secretive government. □



**U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, center, walks alongside Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Jan. 5, 2014.**  
(Brendan Smialowski/The New York Times)

manitarian aid to besieged towns and cities, senior U.S. State Department officials said Monday.

Secretary of State John Kerry said Sunday that in order to participate in the conference, Tehran would have to accept the talks' basic goal of planning for a Syria after the resignation of Assad, a longtime ally of Iran's. But Kerry also said that Iran might informally "contribute from the sidelines," even if it continued to support Assad.

"Are there ways for them conceivably to weigh in? Can their mission that is already in Geneva be there in order to help the process?" Kerry said in his Sun-

an end to the bombardment by the Syrian regime of their own people," the official said. "It includes calling for and encouraging humanitarian access." A second State Department official suggested that Iran could make such entreaties to the Assad government privately.

"Public or private, we'd take it either way at this point," the official said.

The officials could not be identified under the State Department protocol for talking to reporters.

The Syria peace conference is being held in Geneva under the auspices of the United Nations, which will decide what role, if

Kerry is scheduled to attend that meeting.

The possibility of Iran playing a role in the effort is problematic, because it has supplied arms to the Assad government and has been one of the Syrian president's staunchest backers.

Russia, which also has supported Assad, favors Iran's participation. But France's foreign minister said in September that Iran should not be allowed to participate unless it first makes it clear that it would accept an outcome in which Assad would hand over power to a transitional body. Much of the Syrian opposition is also opposed to Iran hav-

the thaw in relations between the United States and Iran has been mainly limited to the November interim agreement suspending much of Iran's nuclear program for six months. Technical talks on how to put that interim agreement into effect are still continuing, and it is unclear whether the agreement will be the basis for a more comprehensive accord to roll back Iran's nuclear efforts.

Although U.S. and Iranian officials have conferred at length on the nuclear question, they appear to have engaged in only very limited discussions of other regional issues. □





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## Sudan's leader al-Bashir flies to South Sudan for crisis talks

NICHOLAS KULISH

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NAIROBI, Kenya - President Omar Hassan al-Bashir of Sudan flew to South Sudan on Monday to discuss the crisis unfolding there with President Salva Kiir after the start of peace talks in Ethiopia failed to bring a halt to fighting. South Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011 but the countries' fates remain deeply intertwined. Oil from the south runs through pipelines to refineries in the north and both sides badly need the revenue. The Sudanese capital, Khartoum, was the scene of significant protests in September after the government, in an effort to compensate for the loss of oil revenue, stopped subsidizing gasoline, which nearly doubled in price. The recent fighting in South Sudan has again disrupted oil production there, with foreign workers fleeing the violent clashes in the oil-producing states of Unity and Upper Nile, shutting down facilities as they departed. Al-Bashir's visit to Juba, the South's capital, was also evidence of how strongly regional leaders wish to see stability return to South Sudan. President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya and Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn of Ethiopia traveled to Juba in late December, as did President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda on a separate visit. Regional mediators have been trying to get peace talks going in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa between the South Sudanese government and representatives of rebel forces. The two sides remain deeply divided over the release of senior politicians arrested after what Kiir described as an attempted coup by former Vice President Riek Machar. Machar has denied attempting a coup and has repeatedly said that there will be no cease-fire until his allies are released.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Sunday that the beginning of direct talks to try to end the fighting in South Sudan was an important first step, but he cautioned that the United States would mobilize international pressure against factions that do not negotiate in good faith. Speaking during a visit to Jerusalem, Kerry said: "The negotiations have to be serious. They cannot be a delay gimmick in order to continue the fighting and try to find advantage on the ground at the expense of the people of South Sudan. They have to be credible talks."

"The United States will support those who seek peace," he said. "But we will deny support and we will work to apply international pressure to any elements that attempt to use force to seize power. That is not acceptable."

Kerry added that the two sides "need to push their people to come to the table here. The fighting must end." The urgency of the talks was evident as gunfire again rattled the nerves of residents in Juba on Sunday. Government officials on Sunday denied reports that the rebels were marching on the capital.

"Machar has not the capacity to attack Juba," said the presidential spokesman, Ateny Wek Ateny, at a news conference in the capital. Philip Aguer, a military spokesman, said the army was making progress and would soon recapture Bor, the strategic capital of Jonglei State. □

## Fallujah: Iraq calls on citizens to expel al-Qaida

ADAM SCHRECK  
SINAN SALAHEDDIN  
Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's prime minister urged Fal-

llegrounds for U.S. troops, has marked the most direct challenge to Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's government since the de-

saying it is ready to help Iraq battle al-Qaida "terrorists" by sending military equipment and advisers should Baghdad ask for it. It is unclear whether Baghdad would take up the Iranian offer, made by Gen. Mohammad Hejazi, the Iranian Army deputy chief-of-staff, in comments to Iranian state media. He ruled out the sending of ground troops across the border. Any direct Iranian help would exacerbate sectarian tensions fueling Iraq's conflict, as Iraqi Sunnis accuse Tehran of backing what they say are their Shiite-led government's unfair policies against them. Iran has the power to sway al-Maliki's political fortunes ahead of upcoming elections through its deep ties to Iraq's major Shiite factions, which have dominated government offices and security forces since the U.S.-led invasion toppled Iran's arch-foe Saddam Hussein in 2003. Iraqi government troops have surrounded Fallujah, which was overrun by fighters from al-Qaida's Iraq branch last week. The city is just 40 miles (65 kilometers) west of the Iraqi capital, Baghdad. □



Gunmen declare the founding statement of the Military Council of Fallujah rebels, in Fallujah, 40 miles (65 kilometers) west of Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014.

(AP Photo)

lujah residents on Monday to expel al-Qaida militants to avoid an all-out battle in the besieged city, a sign that the government could be paving the way for an imminent military push in an attempt to rout hard-line Sunni insurgents challenging its territorial control over the western approaches to Baghdad.

The militants' seizure of Fallujah and parts of nearby Ramadi, once bloody bat-

parture of American forces two years ago. Both the U.S. and its longtime rival Iran view the escalating conflict with alarm, with neither wanting to see al-Qaida take firmer root inside Iraq. Washington has ruled out sending in American troops but recently delivered dozens of Hellfire missiles to help bolster Iraqi forces.

Tehran signaled Monday that it is willing to follow suit,

## Libya: Oil tanker headed to militia-held port barred

Associated Press  
TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — A Defense Ministry official says Libya's navy has prevented a Malta-flagged oil tanker from entering its territorial waters apparently en route to a militia that has shut down oil terminals for months in a challenge to the government.

Spokesman Abdul-Razak al-Shabahi told The Associated Press on Monday that the tanker tried to enter the northeastern city of Misrata's port the previous night. He says the tanker and its cargo were not meant for the government. Libya's eastern militia is demanding more autonomy

from the government in Tripoli and a share of oil revenues. Last summer, its fighters shut down most of the country's terminals and mediation has failed. The government has threatened to use force if the militia attempts to bring in oil before the standoff is resolved. □



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## German leader suffers pelvic injury on ski holiday

**FRANK JORDANS**  
**Associated Press**

**BERLIN (AP)** — German Chancellor Angela Merkel cracked her pelvis during a skiing accident in the Swiss Alps and will have to cut back on her work schedule for the next three weeks, her spokesman said Monday.

Merkel's spokesman Steffen Seibert said the chancellor suffered what she first thought was just a bruise to her left rear pelvic area while cross-country skiing in southeast Switzerland last month. But doctors later determined it was a "incomplete" bone fracture that will require her to rest for three weeks, he said.

"The doctors' orders are to lie down," Seibert told reporters. In response, Merkel canceled a Wednesday visit to Warsaw, Poland, and Luxembourg Prime Minister Xavier Bettel called off his

Thursday trip to Berlin. Merkel, 59, had been skiing "at low speeds" when her fall occurred, Seibert

ing a walking aid to get around, he added. Last week, Merkel sent her wishes for a speedy



**German Chancellor Angela Merkel speaks during a statement in Berlin, Germany. German Chancellor Angela Merkel has suffered a pelvis injury during a skiing holiday in Switzerland, putting her on the sidelines for the next three weeks.**

(AP Photo/Michael Sohn)

said. He was unable to say if another person was involved. She will continue to preside over Cabinet and government meetings, us-

recovery to German Formula One legend Michael Schumacher, who suffered a serious head injury while downhill skiing in France. Schumacher

has been in a medically induced coma at Grenoble University Hospital and doctors said Monday he is still in critical but stable condition.

Experts say cross-country skiing is much less dangerous than downhill. Cross-country trails are mostly flat and the sport is more about endurance than speed.

"Without wanting to play down what happened to Mrs. Merkel, the chances of injury in cross-country skiing are slim compared to downhill," said Michael Berner of Germany's Foundation for Ski Safety. "Still, anyone who does cross-country skiing should learn to do it properly first and have a certain level of fitness." The accident happened around Christmas during Merkel's annual ski trip to Switzerland's Engadin Valley, which includes well-known ski resorts such as St. Moritz. □

## Britain: Treasury chief to order more spending cuts

**DANICA KIRKA**  
**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — Britain's Treasury chief offered a dampened view of the economy on Monday, warning that substantial savings must be gleaned from welfare cuts if the country is to eliminate the deficit.

The British economy has been enjoying a stronger recovery than most European countries, but George Osborne noted there are still big underlying problems.

He said 2014 is to be the "year of hard truths" and that the country faces a choice.

"Do we say: 'the worst is over; back we go to our bad habits of borrowing and spending and living beyond our means — and let the next generation pay the bill'?" he said.

Osborne told workers at a Birmingham company that supplies auto components that billions of pounds (dollars) in welfare cuts will be needed to reduce the deficit, which was swollen by the economic crisis.

The government deficit dropped to 5.2 percent of gross domestic product in the 2012-2013 fiscal year, from 7.6 percent in the previous one.

His sober message comes in stark contrast to the recent news on Britain's economy. Though the recovery from the 2008-2009 recession hasn't been electrifying, Britain is doing better than most other major economies around the world. □

## Swiss central bank reports 2013 loss on gold

**JOHN HEILPRIN**  
**Associated Press**

**GENEVA (AP)** — Switzerland's central bank has reported a loss of 9 billion Swiss francs (\$9.9 billion) for 2013, denying shareholders and local governments any annual profit sharing. The Swiss National Bank said Monday that it lost 15 billion francs in the value of its gold holdings, but that was partly offset by a gain of 3 billion francs in foreign currency and more than 3 billion francs in profits from selling its stabilization fund that bailed out Swiss bank UBS AG. In a statement, the bank

said it could not provide dividends to shareholders or profits to the Swiss government and the country's 26 cantons (states), which could spell problems in 2014 because many of their budgets rely on the proceeds. Gold prices fell sharply in 2013 as the U.S. Federal Reserve wound down an inflation policy that had driven up gold prices.

The losses could dim a popular push for more domestic gold holdings. Last year, Switzerland's seven-member ruling Federal Council, which includes the president and other

ministers, said they opposed a plan contained in a popular referendum that would require Switzerland's central bank to keep at least 20 percent of its assets in gold and all of those on Swiss soil. The council said parliament should recommend that people vote "no" so the central bank's ability to keep prices stable won't be restricted.

The proposal known as "Save our Swiss Gold" came from the nationalist Swiss People's Party, which has gathered enough signatures to put the referendum before Swiss voters sometime in the next few

years.

Swiss National Bank President Thomas Jordan told shareholders last year that the referendum, which would ban the central bank from selling any gold reserves or storing them abroad, and require at least 20 percent of its assets to be held in gold, was "counterproductive" because it would not guarantee price stability or improve the nation's emergency preparedness.

Gold made up just over 10 percent of the central bank's nearly 500 billion Swiss francs (\$537 billion) in assets at the start of 2013. □



## Website: Terror group threatens France over Mali

ROBBIE COREY-BOULET  
Associated Press

**DAKAR, Senegal (AP)** — A terror group active in West Africa has threatened to target the interests of "France and her allies" in retaliation for France's military intervention in Mali last year, according to a Mauritanian website frequently used by local jihadists to communicate with the outside world.

The statement from the Mourabitounes group, sent Saturday to the Nouakchott Information Agency, also detailed terrorist operations carried out by the group's members last year, including attacks in Niger and Mali, and the killing of foreign hostages at a natural gas plant in southeastern Algeria.

Mourabitounes was formed in August, when the one-eyed terror leader Moktar Belmoktar officially joined forces with the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa, a radical al-Qaida-linked jihadist group that once controlled part of northern Mali and has claimed responsibility for a series of attacks in the Gao region since France intervened.

In a statement last month designating the Marabitounes group as a foreign terrorist organization, the U.S. State Department said it "constitutes the greatest near-term threat to U.S. and Western interests" in Africa's Sahel region.

France intervened in Mali in January 2013 after the country's northern half fell under the control of Islamic extremists following a March 2012 military coup. Later that month, Belmoktar staged his most notorious operation targeting the Algerian natural gas facility at Ain Amenas, taking hundreds hostage before the army attacked, killing nearly all the militants. At least 40 hostages died in the standoff.

The State Department has said three U.S. citizens were killed in the attack and that seven Americans escaped. □

## Rwanda FM: No sympathy for dead spy chief

RAY FAURE  
RODNEY MUHUMUZA  
Associated Press

**JOHANNESBURG (AP)** — Rwanda's foreign minister says her government has no sympathy for a slain former spy chief who had a falling out with the country's president and who was killed in South Africa, while Rwanda's prime minister warned on Monday that betraying one's country brings consequences. Members of the Rwandan opposition have accused Rwandan President Paul Kagame of being behind the killing of Patrick Karegeya.

Rwandan Prime Minister Pierre Habumuremyi tweeted on Monday: "Betraying citizens and their country that made you a man shall always bear consequences to you."

When asked by The Associated Press if the tweet referred to Karegeya, the prime minister said "Not necessarily, this should be one of the values of #Rwanda leaders," in response.

But in separate Twitter messages, Rwandan Foreign Minister Louise Mushikiwabo said Karegeya was a "self-declared" enemy of their African nation. Referring to Karegeya's death, she tweeted: "You expect pity?"

The Rwandan government denies it targets dissidents for assassination, though the death of Karegeya — whose body was found, apparently strangled, on New Year's Day in Johannesburg — fits a pattern of attacks on Rwandan dissidents. Kagame has long been accused of extra-territorial killings, including ones committed when Karegeya was the feared boss of Rwanda's external security agency.

Among the attacks, gunmen twice tried to kill Kagame's former chief of army staff, Lt. Gen. Kayumba Nyamwasa, while he was living in exile in Johannesburg in 2010. Nyamwasa told The Associated Press in 2012 that Kagame has hunted him and other dissidents around the world "using hired killer

squads." Responding to Mushikiwabo's tweets, Karegeya's eldest son Elvis asked her on Twitter: "So it's your government's view that

She repeated accusations that the slain dissident colonel and his colleagues had been behind grenade attacks in Rwanda in recent years.

permanent secretary at Uganda's Foreign Ministry, said Monday Karegeya cannot be buried in Uganda because of "sovereignty" issues.

"He was a citizen of Rwanda and was resident in South Africa. We don't want to interfere in other countries' matters," Mugume said. In an interview with the AP on Monday, Karegeya's nephew, David Batenga, said he believes that the last person seen with Karegeya used a fake passport to enter South Africa. Batenga said Monday that the man, Rwandan businessman Apollo Kirisi Gafaranga, had seemed to be a friend of the former Rwandan external intelligence chief.

"We haven't been able to find any record of him entering the country. So he must have used a fake passport," Batenga said.

Three days earlier, Batenga and his uncle had picked Gafaranga up at a light-rail station and driven him to the plush Michelangelo Towers hotel where he had asked to be booked in. □



Rwandan president Paul Kagame during a conference in Nairobi, Kenya. Rwanda's FM says her government has no sympathy for a slain former spy chief who had a falling out with the country's president and who was killed in South Africa, while Rwanda's PM warned on Monday that betraying one's country brings consequences. (AP Photo/Sayyid Azim)

any 'enemy' of the state deserves to be strangled to death?" Mushikiwabo responded: "It's my Gov position: 1. what happens to its enemies shd not make it lose sleep & 2. investigation shd proceed"

Karegeya's family, meanwhile, said the Ugandan government has rejected a request for him to be buried in Uganda, the country of his birth and where his mother and siblings still live. James Mugume, the



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## Workers seize 2 bosses at French Goodyear site

**LORI HINNANT**  
**Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — Monday's meeting in northern French city of Amiens was not going well.

As farm tires blocked the doorway, two Goodyear managers were trapped in a conference room with angry French workers who

agement's attention — by grabbing management. Late Monday, one of the captive managers decried the tactic as degrading and humiliating.

The Amiens plant has an especially contentious past. Goodyear's hopes to close the plant have been thwarted by violent

In exchange for freeing the bosses, they're demanding an 80,000-euro (\$108,000) severance package plus 2,500 euros (\$3,400) for each year worked.

Some journalists were allowed to enter the room where the managers were being held Monday. The atmosphere inside resem-

Picard newspaper.

Things got rowdier when Glesser continued, saying that, while he did not fear for his safety, the situation was "completely disagreeable" and he was being insulted and humiliated.

"Crook!" one worker yelled. "You haven't been humiliating us for seven years?" another shouted.

A third worker handed Glesser a portable urinal.

Evelyne Becker, a union representative, said the two were blocked from leaving after an especially difficult meeting with staff. Goodyear confirmed the two managers were being held against their will.

"This kind of initiative, always to be condemned, is especially inopportune and counterproductive at a time when we should concentrate on the future of employees affected by the restructuring, after several years looking for a solution," Goodyear said in a statement.

The factory and its nearly 1,200 workers have become an emblem of France's labor issues. Last year, an outspoken American executive who had considered taking it over derided the staff as overpaid loafers. "The French workforce gets paid high wages but works only three hours. They get one hour for breaks and lunch, talk for three and work for three," Maurice Taylor, the CEO of Titan tires, wrote to a French government official. □



**Workers of the Goodyear tire factory guard the human resources chief, Bernard Glesser, second right, and the firm's production manager Michel Dheilly, right, who have been blocked from leaving the plant in Amiens, northern France, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014.**

(AP Photo/Michel Euler)

were demanding more money in exchange for the inevitable loss of their jobs. Goodyear has tried to shutter the plant in Amiens for five years without success. Its latest attempt was met Monday with a "boss-napping" — a French negotiating tactic that had largely faded away after the height of the economic crisis in 2009.

More theater than actual threat, it aims to grab man-

protests with huge bonfires, government concerns and France's prolonged lay-off procedures. Now, the union is willing to accept the inevitable loss of jobs — but at a cost.

"Clearly it was no longer possible to keep fighting for our jobs," Mickael Wamen, the union president, told LCI television. "So we decided to change tactics and fight for the largest compensation possible."

bled a college dorm, with several employees laughing and cheering as others rolled a tractor tire into the doorway.

"We've been stuck in this room for three or four hours, and it's out of the question that I respond to questions under pressure," Bernard Glesser, the director of human resources, told journalists in a video posted on the French website Dailymotion by the Courier

## British lawyers in wigs take to the picket line

**LONDON (AP)** — Hundreds of British lawyers — many dressed in traditional white curled wigs and black gowns — swapped courtrooms for picket lines Monday to protest planned cuts to legal aid.

Cases were disrupted at courts including London's famous Old Bailey criminal court as barristers in England and Wales staged their first national walkout. Only one of 18 courts at the Old Bailey managed to hold a sitting during the half-day strike.

The British government, which has slashed billions from public spending in the name of deficit reduction, plans to cut lawyers' fees to reduce the legal aid budget by 220 million pounds (\$360 million) a year through 2019.

The government says Britain's legal-aid system, which costs about 2 billion pounds a year, is among the world's most expensive. It insists barristers are well paid — with 1,200 receiving 100,000 pounds or more in income from legal aid fees last year — and says their fees will remain "generous." But the Criminal Bar Association said the average legal aid earnings of barristers — lawyers who argue in court — was around 36,000 pounds (\$59,000) after services tax and expenses. Lawyers say the cuts could see fees fall by as much as 30 percent, which they say will discourage attorneys from taking criminal cases, in which defendants often rely on state funding for legal representation. Protesters said many lawyers don't fit the "fat cat" image of popular imagination. "I'm sent to cover a number of cases at the magistrates' court and if, for example, it's a bail hearing I would expect to get paid 50 pounds, even if it takes a whole day, and that's before tax ... and travel expenses are taken into account," said Tony Massiah, a 26-year-old lawyer protesting outside London's Southwark Crown Court. □

## UK regulators to investigate Co-op bank leaders

**DANICA KIRKA**  
**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — British regulators launched investigations Monday into the troubled Co-operative Bank, whose former chairman was filmed allegedly buying drugs in a sting by a tabloid newspaper.

Both the Prudential Regulation Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority launched enforcement investigations amid questions as to how Paul Flowers, a Methodist minister who led

the bank for three years, got the job in the first place. The Mail on Sunday's video was allegedly shot just days after he testified before a parliamentary committee on the bank's disastrous financial performance. Flowers failed to answer basic questions about his own bank.

The PRA, which is part of the Bank of England, did not name Flowers, but said it will consider the "role of former senior managers" in its investigation. The regu-

lator is responsible for the safety and soundness of banks and the Co-operative Bank faces many questions in that regard after having to plug a 1.5 billion pounds (\$2.4 billion) hole in its finances.

The bank reshaped its leadership in the wake of troubles that emerged from its 2009 acquisition of the Britannia Building society and its aborted interest in the purchase of some 630 branches from another U.K. lender, Lloyds Bank. The in-

stitution agreed last year to a rescue plan that saw hedge funds move in and take a huge share of its operations.

The FCA will examine whether the bank's leaders behaved appropriately.

The two probes are in addition to a separate independent review announced by the Treasury. That independent review will take place once it is clear that it won't prejudice any enforcement investigations by the regulators. □





## Real Island Life: Notes From A Day On Aruba!

**PALM BEACH** - First of all, I like to welcome you to my island in the sun. Aruba's weather is always so predictable (hot and windy) and that might be the main reason you decided to come visit us.

Of course besides the sun there is much more like: beaches, restaurants, shopping, gambling, activities and more. Talking about all those fun things to do here, if you live on the island full time, and work every day, you might forget that we truly live in a paradise. Of course on your off day you might go swimming or drive around but it is after a few more days at home when you start realizing how beautiful our island really is.



Grab an ice cooler, fill it up with anything you like to

ocean. I counted at least 9 different types of blues-just

like you see in famous movies like the "blue lagoon". First stop was the famous Charlie's Bar in San Nicolaas Main Street. Generation after generation of Charlie's have been running this cozy place, where you can spend hours looking around and identifying all the things visiting tourists have left behind to personalize the bar, like baseball caps, business cards, license plates and of course weird kind of souvenirs. Go check it out yourself.... Up to Baby Beach and Rogers beach. These are the places locals

go.

This is where we teach our kids to swim. Calm and shallow waters, lots of space to lay out and catch some sun.

If you pick a spot close to the Snack Container where they sell burger and refreshments you can enjoy 24-7 "golden oldies". Music you grew up with..... After a few hours of "vegging" on the beach staring at the turquoise ocean and listening to the birds that fly by and walk around it is time to get some food. Zeerovers in Savaneta is the place to go.

Simple, clean and oh so good! The freshest fish on the island, brought in directly by our local fisherman. You order by the piece and or pound and as little or as much as you want.

The price for fish and chips is so good that you for sure would ask: "is that all"? No fancy dinner ware, just plain easy simple plastic but I promise you that you will be licking your fingers while enjoying a few drinks and the best sunset on the island, island style..... You see now that a day in Aruba can fly by as long as you have fun enjoy every moment of it. Yes, you are and i live in PARADISE!!!



So i took some time to "smell the ocean breeze"..... I truly think that all locals should do so, once in a while, to appreciate where we live and what we have. Enjoy breakfast outside in your patio or yard. Breathe in and out.... Let it sink in a little.

No rush and no hurry. Take time to enjoy your fresh squeezed lemon juice from your backyard trees with a fish omelet (left over's from last night's incredible catch of the day).

drink cold, and start driving. Of course you can get in an air-conditioned car, but that is not the real thing. So I choose to get on my Rewaco trike, a Harley Davidson look alike on three wheels.

In that case all you need is to protect yourself with sun block because our sun is really strong! Packed with a towel and the ice cooler I started driving along the coast line. Never realized how many different shades of blue really exist in the





# Fun & Sun at the Pelican Pier on Palm Beach!



tersports such as wave runners, parasailing, tubing and much more. Our desks are located at Casa del Mar (pool deck), Westin Hotel lower lobby, Westin activity center (pool deck),

fers an impressive selection of fresh seafood (caught daily by our own fleet), International dishes and a relaxing atmosphere. Open daily for dinner reservations call 297-586-2259 from 11



**PAL M BEACH** - Pelican Adventures Tours & Watersports & Pelican Nest Bar & Seafood Grill are all under one roof located at The Pelican Pier in Palm Beach. We offer Sailing & Snorkel-

ing Cruises, Champagne Brunch Cruises, Sunset & Dinner Cruises, Holy Guacamole Fiesta Cruise, Wet & Wild Jeep tour and our famous Beach & Cave tour, also a variety of wa-



Playa Linda resort next to the juice bar, Holiday Inn Desk and at the Concierge & Pelican Pier desk located between Holiday Inn hotel & Playa Linda Resort. Pelican Nest Restaurant of-

am. Our Captain's Morgan Pier Bar offers a daily happy hour from 4 till 6 pm. Last but not least our Pizzeria del Mar that offers a variety of pizzas.☐





## Support Aramis and friends at the Donkey Sanctuary Aruba!

**ORANJESTAD** - We would like to introduce Aramis to you, one of the donkeys that has found a home at the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary. We have never seen a donkey that was so easily accepted by the herd as Aramis. Normally it takes quite a while before the herd accepts a newcomer, but with Aramis and his friend Ninja it went without a hitch. We only separated them for one night, but one noticed that the herd was not opposed to this gorgeous, dark grey donkey. So put into the herd, and loving every moment at the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary. Aramis can look forward to staying a long, long time with us, as he is just four years old.

This beautiful donkey has been provided with a chip, just like all the other donkeys. On the chip is information about the donkey and its medical history. The donkeys at the sanctuary have

a lot of friends with whom they can play all day long. And they love living there: they are well-cared for, they are fed and watered and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers for the sanctuary. The volunteers are trying to cover the various costs with all kinds of activities and the sale of great donkey memorabilia in the shop. Fortunately, there are also visitors who wish to adopt a donkey, who buy something at the donkey shop or who make a donation. Thus they help support us. Everyone is welcome to visit the sanctuary, which has opening hours from 9 am until 4 pm and in the weekend from 10 am until 3. Entry is free of charge and one can enjoy a soft drink, a cup of coffee or a refreshing ice cream. The volunteers of the sanctuary are hoping that somebody will adopt this friendly, lovely donkey.



Of course the donkey will keep on living at the sanctuary; you only need to pay AWG. 30,- per month for the donkey's keep. With this amount you help support the sanctuary as well as your own donkey. And

you will receive a beautiful certificate and a super T-shirt and your name and photo will be posted on our website. So please call the sanctuary at 593-2933; you can also register via the website [www.arubandonkey.org](http://www.arubandonkey.org)

or donate money on bank account number 40.03.025 at the Aruba Bank! Just do it! Would you like to follow the donkeys on Facebook: surf to Donkey Sanctuary Aruba please. ☐

## Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

*Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"*



**ORANJESTAD** - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009



### Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com)

**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com) Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.





## NHL Capsules

# Ducks take over NHL lead as Blackhawks lose

**The Associated Press**

**ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)** — Corey Perry scored his NHL-leading eighth game-winning goal of the season with 1.3 seconds on the clock in overtime, giving Anaheim a come-from-behind victory over Vancouver.

The Ducks, off to a franchise-best 31-8-5 start and 17-0-2 at Honda Center, are the only team in the league without a regulation loss at home. Anaheim is also the third NHL team to open a season with a home point streak of at least 19 games.

The Ducks have also won 13 of 14 since losing back-to-back shootout decisions against San Jose and Los Angeles.

Nick Bonino scored the tying goal with 1:27 left in regulation. Saku Koivu and Matt Beleskey scored in the second period, and Jonas Hiller stopped 17 shots to extend his club-record and career-best winning streak to 11.

Ryan Kesler and Henrik Sedin scored power-play goals 2 minutes apart in the first, and defenseman Kevin Bieksa scored in the third for the Canucks.

Canucks rookie Eddie Lack made a career-high 45 saves one night after Roberto Luongo had 45 in a loss to Los Angeles.

**PENGUINS 6, JETS 5**

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Evgeni Malkin scored twice in his return from injury, and the



Carolina Hurricanes goalie Anton Khudobin (31), of Kazakhstan, collides with Nashville Predators' Patric Hornqvist (27) of Sweden, but blocks the shot during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Sunday, Jan. 5, 2014, in Raleigh, N.C. Khudobin had 31 saves in the 2-1 Hurricanes win.

Associated Press

Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Winnipeg Jets 6-5 on Sunday.

James Neal added two goals for Pittsburgh, which matched a club record by winning its 12th straight home game. Jussi Jokinen scored his third goal in two games, and Matt Niskanen put in the winner with less than 8 minutes left.

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 29 shots, and coach Dan Bylsma won his 232nd game with Pittsburgh.

He moved into a tie with Eddie Johnston for the most victories in franchise history.

Evander Kane had two goals and an assist for the Jets. Jacob Trouba, Blake Wheeler and Mark Scheifele also scored, but Winnipeg remained winless in Pittsburgh since 2006. Al Montoya made 33 saves, but couldn't make an early two-goal lead stand. **SHARKS 3, BLACKHAWKS 2, SO**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Logan Couture and Joe Pavelski scored in a shootout, and San Jose earned its first victory in Chicago in three years.

Alex Stalock made 33 saves through overtime as San Jose bounced back from a loss at Colorado on Saturday. Jason Demers scored in the first period, and Brett Burns had a tying goal in the third.

Continued on page 20

# Rules could keep Miller, Vonn out of Sochi races

**ANDREW DAMPF**

**AP Sports Writer**

**BORMIO, Italy (AP)** — Picture this for the Sochi Olympics: Bode Miller not allowed to defend his super-combined title, Lindsey

Vonn limited to two events and other medal contenders held out of some of their favorite disciplines.

It's a scenario that top skiers are calling "absurd" but that could become a reali-

ty — at least, that's how the big Alpine nations are interpreting the International Ski Federation's (FIS) complex new Olympic qualifying rules. "We're waiting for FIS to clarify what it means

and how it works," U.S. Ski Team men's head coach Sasha Rearick told The Associated Press on Monday — three weeks before he has to name his team for Sochi. "It's critical that we

have a fair solution and the top athletes can compete in the events they deserve to."

Continued on page 22



## NBA Capsules

# Heat edge Raptors as divisional leaders clash

**The Associated Press**

**MIAMI (AP)** — LeBron James scored 30 points, Michael Beasley came off the bench to add 17 and the Miami Heat held on down the stretch to beat the Toronto Raptors 102-97 Sunday night.

Dwyane Wade scored 14 points and Chris Bosh grabbed 11 rebounds for the Heat, who successfully overcame a deficit entering the fourth quarter for the seventh time in 13 tries. Miami was down by five entering the fourth, then opened the final period with a 7-0 run and never trailed again.

DeMar DeRozan scored 26 points on 11 for 19 shooting for Toronto, which was bidding for its first six-game winning streak since April 2007. Amir Johnson and Jonas Valanciunas each scored 17 for the Raptors, who got 14 from Kyle Lowry.

**PISTONS 112, GRIZZLIES 84 AUBURN HILLS, Michigan (AP)** — Jon Leuer matched a career-high with 23 points, Zach Randolph had 16 points and 16 rebounds, and the Memphis Grizzlies dominated the second half to beat the Detroit Pistons 112-84 on Sunday afternoon.

Memphis had six players in double figures, including 15 from former Piston Tayshaun Prince.

Greg Monroe led Detroit with 19 points, while Andre Drummond added 15 points and 14 rebounds.

The Pistons lost their fourth straight and fifth in a row at home.

They are now 4-10 after a 10-10 start to the season. The Grizzlies continued to alternate wins and losses, going 3-2 in their last five without back-to-back victories or defeats.

**WARRIORS 112, WIZARDS 96 WASHINGTON (AP)** — Klay Thompson scored 26 points, Stephen Curry and Andrew Bogut connected on a trick play worthy of the NBA's slam dunk con-

test, and the Golden State Warriors have their longest in-season winning streak since 1975 after Sunday night's 112-96 win over the Washington Wizards.

The Warriors won their ninth in a row by turning the third quarter into a laughter, opening the period with a 30-5 run.

Curry and Thompson topped John Wall and Bradley Beal in the battle of the two highest-scoring backcourts in the NBA. Curry scored 14 points on 5-for-17 shooting, but the league's most turnover-prone player had 10 assists and only two giveaways. Thompson was 9 for 14 from the field, including 6 for 9 from 3-point range.

Wall had 14 points and 10 assists, but he shot 4 for 11, including 1 for 5 in the crucial third quarter.

**PACERS 82, CAVALIERS 78 CLEVELAND (AP)** — Paul George scored 16 points, Roy Hibbert made a put-back and two free throws in the final 1:09 and the Indiana Pacers held off Cleveland's late rally for an 82-78 win over the short-handed Cavaliers on Sunday night.

The Pacers led by 16 in the fourth before Dion Waiters brought Cleveland back by scoring 12 points in a 16-1 run that got the Cavs within 75-74 with 3:35 left. Hibbert's free throw with 7.9 seconds left put the Pacers up 81-78, and Indiana got the ball back when Cleveland's Earl Clark stepped out on an inbounds pass 1 second later.

David West made one free throw with 5.4 seconds left, and the Pacers escaped with their seventh win in eight games. At 27-6, Indiana has the NBA's best record.

Waiters scored 21 for the Cavaliers, who played without All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving.

**THUNDER 119, CELTICS 96 OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)** — Reggie Jackson scored a career-high 27 points, Kev-

in Durant added 21 points, seven rebounds and eight assists, and the Oklahoma City Thunder halted their home-court swoon with a 119-96 win over the Boston Celtics on Sunday night.

Serge Ibaka added 17 points and 11 rebounds for Oklahoma City, which had lost three of its previous four home games after starting the season 13-0 at Chesapeake Energy Arena. The Thunder (27-7) have the best record in the Western Conference.

Oklahoma City is 4-2 since All-Star point guard Russell Westbrook had arthroscopic knee surgery on Dec. 27. Jeff Green and Avery Bradley scored 19 points apiece for Boston, which has lost four straight games and seven of its last eight.

**KNICKS 92, MAVERICKS 80 DALLAS (AP)** — Carmelo Anthony scored 15 of his 19 points in the first quarter to jump-start the New York Knicks' 92-80 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Sunday night.

New York led by as many as 19 points and held off a second-half rally that pulled the Mavericks within six.

The Knicks went 2-1 on a four-day trip through Texas. Anthony scored six points during a 12-0 run in the first that gave the Knicks a 24-13 lead. He also had four rebounds, three assists and two steals in the quarter.

Kenyon Martin scored six points in a 1:13 span early in the third quarter that gave New York a 58-39 lead. He had 10 of the Knicks' 15 points in the quarter and finished with a season-high 14.

**NUGGETS 137, LAKERS 115 LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Ty Lawson had 20 points and 12 assists, Timofey Mozgov added 20 points and seven rebounds, and the Denver Nuggets beat the slumping Los Angeles Lakers 137-115 Sunday night for their second straight win after an eight-game skid. □



Toronto Raptors defenders Amir Johnson (15) and Jonas Valanciunas (17) try to block Miami Heat's LeBron James (6) from taking a shot during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday Jan. 5, 2014, in Miami.

Associated Press

## Kobe hopes fans don't choose him for All-Star game



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, left, watches from the bench along with center Pau Gasol, of Spain, during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Utah Jazz, Friday, Jan. 3, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

**GREG BEACHAM**

AP Sports Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — While Kobe Bryant heals from his latest injury, he has an un-

usual campaign message for the fans who select the NBA All-Star game's starters: Don't vote for me.

The Los Angeles Lakers' superstar guard is hoping fans elect younger, more deserving players to start next month's showcase in New Orleans.

Bryant is a 15-time All-Star selection, a four-time All-Star game MVP and the top scorer in the game's history. He says he'd be honored if he's voted in again, but isn't even sure he'll be ready to play.

Bryant has played in just six games this season, and he's out for several more weeks while a broken bone near his knee heals.

He made his season debut Dec. 8, eight months after tearing his Achilles tendon. □



# 11-time winner Peterhansel again leads Dakar

**SAN RAFAEL, Argentina**

**(AP)** — Eleven-time winner Stephane Peterhansel of France took the overall lead in the car division of the Dakar Rally on Monday, winning the second stage of the grueling race. Peterhansel finished 46 seconds ahead of Spain's Carlos Sainz and 5:34 in front of Giniel De Villiers of South Africa. Peterhansel leads the overall car standings by 28 seconds ahead of Sainz and has a 4:10 advantage over Nasser Al-Attiyah of Qatar. Peterhansel won the race last year, his fifth victory in the car division to go with six in bikes.

Sam Sunderland of Britain won the bikes stage, with Francisco Lopez of Chile 39 seconds behind. Joan Barreda Bort of Spain was 2 minutes back in third. Barreda Bort held the over-



**Mini driver Stephane Peterhansel and co-pilot Jean Paul Cottret, both of France, race through a creek during the first stage of the Dakar Rally between the cities of Rosario and San Luis, Argentina, Sunday, Jan. 5, 2014.**

Associated Press

all lead, 2:03 in front of Lopez and 2:33 ahead of Sunderland.

The second stage is regarded as one of the fastest in the two-week rally, which ends Jan. 18 in Valparaiso, Chile.

"Today the first part was very, very speedy and the second part was very sandy with dunes," Lopez said. "That was OK for my machine. The end was very technical, but I think it was a good day."

Tuesday's third stage runs north from San Rafael to San Juan in Argentina. The rally will cross into Bolivia on Sunday and Monday before moving into Chile where it heads south toward the finish.

This is the sixth consecutive year the race has been run in South America, and the first time Bolivia has been on the route. □

## 8 NHL players make Switzerland's Olympic roster

**ZURICH (AP)** — Eight NHL players have been included on Switzerland's roster for next month's Sochi Olympics, including Philadelphia Flyers defenseman Mark Streit and Anaheim Ducks goaltender Jonas Hiller.

Hiller is one of two NHL goaltenders picked for the team, along with Reto Berra of the Calgary Flames. Tobias Stephan, who played just under a dozen games for the Dallas Stars in 2007-08 and 2008-09, is the third.

Raphael Diaz of the Montreal Canadiens and Yannick Weber of the Vancouver Canucks are also part of the Swiss defense, along with Roman Josi of the Nashville Predators.

Up front, Nino Niederreiter of

the Minnesota Wild and Damien Brunner of the New Jersey Devils were the only NHL forwards picked.

Missing was Sven Baertschi of the Flames, who could be an injury replacement. □

### NHL Capsules

Continued from page 18

Couture beat Corey Crawford with a shot into the right side of the net after Stalock stopped Chicago captain Jonathan Toews leading off the shoot-out. Patrick Sharp then shot wide before Pavelski scored to give the Sharks their first win at the United Center since a 5-3 victory on Dec. 30, 2010.

Crawford made 40 saves in his first home start since he left Chicago's 6-2 victory over Florida on Dec. 8 because of a lower-body injury.

Defensemen Niklas Hjalmarsson and Michal Rozsival scored in the third period for the Blackhawks, who have earned at least one point in their last 10 games. **HURRICANES 2, PREDATORS 1**

**RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)** — Alexander Semin and Jeff Skinner both had a goal and an assist, and Anton Khudobin made 31 saves to lift Carolina to its season-high fourth straight win.

Skinner netted the winner with 3:31 left on a shot from the right wing that slipped under goalie Carter Hutton's pads for his team-leading 20th goal.

Patric Hornqvist had tied it for Nashville with a power-play goal at 6:46 of the third period. The Predators, who had earned points in four straight games, dropped their third in a row.

The Hurricanes played without injured captain Eric Staal. Khudobin, filling in for injured goalie Cam Ward, improved to 5-0 this season and helped the Hurricanes win both ends of a back-to-back set for the first time this season.

Staal, who missed his first game since Feb. 26, 2011, had played in 191 consecutive regular-season games — the third longest streak in franchise history.

**DUCKS 4, CANUCKS 3, OT OILERS 5, LIGHTNING 3**

**EDMONTON, Alberta (AP)** — Jordan Eberle scored two goals, and Edmonton snapped a four-game losing streak by beating Tampa Bay. Taylor Hall, Luke Gazdic, and Boyd Gordon also scored for the Oilers (14-26-5), who have won three of 13. Edmonton avoided its fourth five-game losing streak of the season. It was the Oilers' first win against a team above the playoff cutline in a month. Nikita Kucherov, Victor Hedman and Valtteri Filppula had goals for the Lightning (25-13-4), whose five-game winning streak on the road ended. □



**Nashville Predators goalie Carter Hutton (30) reacts as the puck sits in the back of the net after being shot by Carolina Hurricanes' Jeff Skinner, not pictured, during the third period of an NHL hockey game in Raleigh, N.C., Sunday, Jan. 5, 2014. Hurricanes won 2-1.**

Associated Press





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## Rematches galore in next NFL playoff round

By **BARRY WILNER**  
AP Pro Football Writer

The road was kind in the wild-card round. The next challenge might be more daunting for the Saints, 49ers and Chargers.

Not to mention the Colts, the only team to win at home this weekend.

Not that any of the first-round playoff winners are shying away from the next test. Rather, their attitude is "Bring it on."

"They got us the first time," 49ers All-Pro linebacker NaVorro Bowman said of the Carolina Panthers, who won at San Francisco two months ago. "What's on our minds is to get them now. It's the playoffs, win or go home."

Going ahead were the 49ers after a 23-20 victory at frigid Green Bay; New Orleans, which finally got a postseason win away from the Big Easy by beating Philadelphia 26-24; San Diego, a 27-10 winner at Cincinnati, which had not lost at home all season; and Indianapolis, a 45-44 victor against Kansas City thanks to a stunning comeback from a 28-point deficit.

Next Saturday, it's New Orleans (12-5) at Seattle (13-3) on Saturday, followed by Indianapolis (12-5) at New England (12-4). Sunday's matchups are San Francisco (13-4) at Carolina (12-4), then San Diego (10-7) at Denver (13-3).

All but Colts-Patriots are rematches of a regular-season meeting. In addition to the Panthers' 10-9 win on Nov. 10 at Candlestick Park, the Seahawks routed the Saints 34-7 in Seattle, and the Chargers won 27-20 at Denver last month.

"We're loose, we're confident, we're peaking at the right time," said safety Eric Weddle, who spearheaded a stingy Char-

gers defense against the Bengals. "We are a team to be dealt with. We're a confident bunch, especially in the second half, in the fourth quarter. We feel we're ready for those situations. The pressure is not going to get to us."

What's ahead in the playoffs:

**Saints at Seahawks**

New Orleans played its worst game of the season on Dec. 2 at Seattle, which seemed invincible at home back then. But the Seahawks showed some vulnerability at noisy CenturyLink Field by losing their next home game to Arizona.

That should encourage the Saints, but only if they can replicate the pressure the Cardinals' defense put on quarterback Russell Wilson. The Saints shut down the league's top rushing team in Philadelphia, and Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch has not been very dynamic the last six weeks.

But there's also the theory that the Seahawks were helped by sustaining their first home loss with second-year QB Wilson at the helm, and they won't be slipping up again.

"When you face an opponent previously in the season, you have a better idea of what you're going against," New Orleans defensive tackle Brodrick Bunkley said. "It helps you prepare for it a little bit better."

**Colts at Patriots**

Here's a juicy one: Andrew Luck, the new comeback king among quarterbacks, against three-time Super Bowl winner Tom Brady.

"There's no question he's a complete football player and one of the top quarterbacks in this league already," Patriots coach Bill



Seattle Seahawks' defensive end Michael Bennett returns a fumble for a touchdown against the New Orleans Saints in the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Dec. 2, 2013, in Seattle.

Associated Press

Belichick said Sunday. He meant Luck.

For that matchup to matter, though, the Colts must avoid the slow starts that plagued them this season. Does anyone believe they can fall behind by four touchdowns or so against the Patriots and then win? New England's once sieve-like defense has improved recently, and witnessing what the Chiefs did to Indy's defense even without Jamaal Charles should make Colts fans shudder.

**49ers at Panthers**

San Francisco's versatility and experience showed at Green Bay. Teams that win in the worst of conditions while not playing close to their best are particularly dangerous.

The Niners won't need to worry about wind chills at

Carolina. They will need to find a way to move the ball against a Panthers defense that shut them down two months ago.

This has the look of a low-scoring contest, but with San Francisco's Colin Kaepernick and Carolina's Cam Newton bringing so much creativity and energy at quarterback, the scoreboard might get lit up.

"Colin Kaepernick, I think we can all agree, is a clutch performer," coach Jim Harbaugh said.

**Chargers at Broncos**

These two original AFL franchises have met 108 times, but never in the postseason.

Denver won at San Diego in November by eight points, then lost at home a month later to the Chargers by

seven. San Diego has won five in a row, barely sneaking into the playoffs, but then handling the Bengals relatively easily Sunday.

For the Chargers to stay close to the Broncos' record-setting offense led by Peyton Manning, they will need their own quarterback, Philip Rivers, to make lots of big plays. Plus, Denver is not going to forget how it posted the AFC's best record a year ago, then flopped against Baltimore in its first postseason chance.

"We will be confident," said Rivers, who was 12 of 16 for 128 yards with a touchdown and no interceptions on a rainy, 40-degree afternoon in Cincinnati. "We've got to be careful we're not overconfident, which we won't be." □



# Wozniacki, Kerber advance at Sydney International

**SYDNEY (AP)** — Only days after her New Year's Eve engagement to golfer Rory McIlroy, Caroline Wozniacki opened her 2014 season on Monday with a 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 win over Julia Goerges of Germany in the first round of the Sydney International. Wozniacki withdrew from the Brisbane International last week after hurting her right shoulder in practice and struggled early against Goerges, who was replacing the injured Sloane Stephens in the draw.

Another former No. 1, Jelena Jankovic, lost 6-4, 6-2 to Ekaterina Makarova of Russia in the first round earlier Monday.

Fifth-seeded Angelique Kerber of Germany beat Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia 7-6 (5), 7-5 to move into the second round at the Sydney International, one of the last warm-up tournaments for the Australian Open.

Kerber will next play Kaia Kanepi of Estonia, who beat American qualifier Victoria Duval 6-1, 6-3.

In other first-round matches, Lucie Safarova beat 2010 French Open champion Francesca Schiavone 6-4,



**Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark hits a return to Julia Goerges of Germany during their women's singles match at the Sydney International tennis tournament in Sydney, Australia, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014.**

6-4 and Bethanie Mattek-Sands defeated Eugenie Bouchard 6-4, 6-3.

Also advancing was Lauren Davis, Varvara Lepchenko and Tsvetana Pironkova.

On the comeback from a long layoff with a knee injury, Mattek-Sands had a first-round loss in Brisbane last week and went through three rounds of qualifying for Sydney. She next faces

defending champion and No. 1-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska.

"She reads the ball so early so it's going to be a great battle," Mattek-Sands said of her second-round match.

"But I'm looking forward to it. This is why you train - it's to play the best players in the world. So why not play the No. 1 seed?"

## Associated Press

The Hobart International had another injury setback Monday when fifth-seeded Flavia Pennetta withdrew citing a wrist injury, a day after Venus Williams pulled out following her run to the final at the ASB Classic in Auckland, New Zealand.

Top-seeded Samantha Stosur needed five match points before beating American qualifier Madison

Brengle of the United States 6-7 (4), 6-1, 7-6 (5) in a match interrupted twice by rain, eighth-seeded Bojana Jovanovski of Serbia had a 7-5, 6-3 win over Annika Beck of Germany, and Yanina Wickmayer of Belgium advanced when Laura Robson retired in the second set. Robson won the first set 6-4, but was down a break at 2-0 when she retired in the second.

In other first-round matches in Hobart, Spanish qualifier Estrella Cabeza Candela beat Karin Knapp of Italy 7-5, 6-4, Australian wild-card entry Casey Dellacqua beat Belgian qualifier Alison Van Uytvanck 6-4, 6-4 and Zhang Shuai had a 6-3, 6-1 win in an all-Chinese match against Zheng Jie.

In Auckland, 21-year-old American Jack Sock, ranked 100, advanced to the second round of the ATP's Heineken Open with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Adrian Mannarino of France.

Sock, who won the 2011 U.S. Open mixed doubles title with Melanie Oudin, served 11 aces in the match.

Also, Santiago Giraldo of Colombia beat Albert Montanes of Spain 6-1, 7-6 (3). □

## Sochi

Continued from page 18

At issue are rules put in place last year to help smaller nations gain Olympic qualifying spots. In the fine print, the rules require skiers to finish a certain number of races in a discipline over last season and this season — up to Jan. 19 — to qualify for that event in Sochi. It's five races for the technical events of slalom and giant slalom, and three for the speed events of downhill, super-G and super-combined.

For the men's super-combined, those rules mean Miller, American world champion Ted Ligety and Austrian standout Benjamin Raich could all miss out. And the injured Vonn — if she decides to compete in Sochi — would be limited to just two events — downhill and super-G.



**Lindsey Vonn is flanked by her boyfriend Tiger Woods as she leaves after an alpine ski, women's World Cup downhill, in Val D'Isere, France, Saturday, Dec. 21, 2013.**

## Associated Press

Miller took off last season to let his surgically repaired left knee heal, Vonn has not raced much since crashing at last season's worlds and subsequent knee surgery. And while Ligety won gold medals in super-G, super-combined and giant slalom at last season's worlds,

he did not finish the only two World Cup super-combined races last season. Raich and fellow Austrians Anna Fenninger and Kathrin Zettel also don't have enough results in super-combi.

"It's stupid. It's not a good rule," said Peter Schroeck-

snadel, the president of the Austrian ski federation. "The strongest nations should be able to have the strongest athletes."

FIS men's World Cup director Gunter Hujara is promising a last-minute change.

"We will handle it at the end," he announced at a team captain's meeting Sunday. FIS secretary general Sarah Lewis did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The rules states that the previous results don't have to come in a World Cup race, but could also be in the lower-tier Europa Cup and other FIS events.

That's why the Austrian ski federation set up FIS super-combined races on home snow in Innerkrems last week — one of which was won by Frederic Berthold, the son of Austria men's head coach Mathias Berthold. The Austrians were initially planning to

enter Raich and other top athletes but then withdrew them, expecting a rule change.

Still, women's super-combis are scheduled for Innerkrems this week.

"It's crazy if you have to manipulate the system like that and implement races so you get starts," U.S. Alpine director Patrick Riml said.

With his gold-medal performance at the worlds as his only result, Ligety still needs two super-combined finishes to qualify. He could get one in the super-combi in Wengen, Switzerland, on Jan. 17, but would need one more.

"If they don't let the best guys race then it would be absurd," Ligety said. "It wouldn't be an event. ... They'll get it figured out. They'll make it so the best guys can race. It wouldn't make any sense otherwise." □



# New software battle coming to smart TVs

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — More choice — and confusion — is coming to the next generation of TVs.

At least three new software systems were announced Monday for Internet-connected television sets, which let viewers watch Internet video and interact with friends online on the big screen. The new smart TV operating systems will compete with software already available from Google and individual TV manufacturers.

The slew of options is in contrast to the smartphone market, where just two operating systems — Apple's iOS and Google's Android — dominate.

But more consumer choice will also mean more difficulties for services such as Hulu and Netflix to write apps. As a result, app selection on any given TV will be limited.

To fully enjoy the range of



**This image provided by Roku Inc., shows a screen frame grab of Roku's service. Internet streaming platform company Roku Inc. is launching a line of TVs that plays back video from services like Netflix without requiring an extra set-top box. While similar to smart TVs on the market already, Roku's platform with some 1,200 apps is far more comprehensive for those seeking out niche content. Roku plans to showcase them on the sidelines of the annual gadget show in Las Vegas, International CES, starting Monday, Jan. 6, 2014.**

Associated Press

Internet video on the TV, many consumers will still have to buy a separate device such as Apple TV and Roku for as much as \$100 — and then figure out how to install it. Those

devices cost about \$100, though Google sells a \$35 Chromecast device with fewer features.

"I keep hoping we will see convergence," said Colin Dixon, chief analyst at nScreen Media, a research firm in Sunnyvale, California. "Unfortunately we keep seeing the number of operating systems increasing, not decreasing."

Chet Kanojia, whose Aereo online television service has been trying to expand onto more devices, said the tendency for TV set manufacturers to differentiate their systems with unique features turns app development into "a royal pain." That's because Aereo's engineers have to write new apps for each one.

The announcements at the International CES gadget show in Vegas include:

— Mozilla, the nonprofit organization behind the Firefox Web browser, said it is putting its Firefox OS software on smart TVs, starting with Panasonic's. The code powering Web browsers had been adapted last year to run smartphones targeted at emerging markets. Now, Firefox will be tweaked further with Panasonic's help to work on bigger screens and incorporate TV-specific features such as electronic program guides. Panasonic expects to start selling TVs with

Firefox OS later in the year. Other TV manufacturers will be able to use the same software without charge.

— LG Corp. announced plans to power 70 percent of its smart TVs this year with the webOS mobile system it bought from Hewlett-Packard Co. last March. Although LG hasn't disclosed specifics, the use of webOS paves the way for owners of LG sets to control home appliances from the TV. For starters, LG said the new software will make its TVs easier to set up and use.

— The streaming video device maker Roku Inc. said it is partnering with two large Chinese TV makers, TCL Corp. and Hisense International Co. Ltd., to incorporate its software so Roku apps can run on TVs without a separate device.

Several TV makers already have their own smart TV software. Opera Software is also trying to adapt its Opera Web browser to work on TV sets, similar to what Mozilla is doing with Firefox. Opera said some of its software is already on sets made by Sony, Samsung and Toshiba.

There also has been longstanding speculation that Apple is working on its own smart TV system, but the company hasn't said anything about it and there's no indication such a system is imminent. If Apple

does make it, it would likely be limited to TVs under its own brand and would negate the need for a stand-alone Apple TV device.

In 2010, Google Inc. attempted to unify smart TV software by creating its Google TV system. Sony Corp. was among the companies that made TVs using Google TV. But Dixon said adoption of Google TV has been slow, in part because TV manufacturers didn't want to turn their sets into conduits for Google's services, as Android phones have become.

Although there are many versions of Android on phones, there's enough in common that app developers don't have to start from scratch each time. Google is trying to promote a similar approach on Internet-connected cars. On Monday, Google and car makers Audi, General Motors, Honda and Hyundai announced an alliance to bring Android to cars. Chipmaker Nvidia is also part of that.

Andreas Gal, Mozilla's vice president for mobile engineering, acknowledges that fragmentation on TVs is a big problem, but he said Firefox is trying to address that through the use of Web-based standards, known as HTML5. Opera is doing that, too.

With such an approach, an app that works with Firefox OS or Opera TV will need only minimal changes to work on other systems that use the same standards, similar to how the same websites can work on competing browsers.

And because many services already have websites that support HTML5 on the desktop, Gal said, those also should work on smart TVs through a browser.

Merwan Mereby, an executive with Panasonic Corp.'s interactive content business in North America, said that after years of developing its own proprietary technologies, Panasonic decided to embrace Firefox OS so that publishers and Web developers can bring content to the big screens more easily.

## Toyota bumps up hydrogen-powered car in US to 2015

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — Toyota said Monday that a hydrogen-powered vehicle that emits only water vapor as exhaust will go on sale in the U.S. in 2015, a year earlier than it promised just two months ago. The Japanese automaker made the announcement Monday at the International CES, the technology industry's annual gadget show. The shift came months after rival automakers Hyundai and Honda both said they'd start selling cars with that technology in the U.S. in 2015.

The electric car, which Toyota calls FCV, uses hydrogen as fuel for a battery. Toyota says it will have a range of 300 miles (480 kilometers), can accelerate from standstill to 60 miles per hour (96 kph) in 10 seconds, and can

refuel its hydrogen tank in three to five minutes.

Toyota says it will focus on selling cars in California at first. Working with researchers at the University of California, Irvine, Toyota said the first 10,000 vehicles can be supported with only 68 refueling stations from San Francisco to San Diego. It noted that California has approved \$200 million to build about 20 fueling stations by 2015, 40 by 2016 and 100 by 2024.

"Stay tuned because this infrastructure thing is going to happen," Bob Carter, senior vice president of automotive operations for Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A. Inc., said in a statement.

Toyota Motor Corp. has promised to sell its fuel cell cars for \$50,000 to \$100,000. □



## Study suggests recovery in U.S. remains relatively vital

CATHERINE RAMPPELL

SHAILA DEWAN

© 2014 New York Times

**PHILADELPHIA** - Academic heavyweights have been debating whether the United States economy is so sluggish because of too much government stimulus, or because slower growth had become the norm even before the recession. But maybe these arguments share a faulty premise.

The U.S. economy is actually doing reasonably well - at least compared with what would be expected after a major financial crisis - according to a provocative study from Carmen M. Reinhart and Kenneth S. Rogoff, Harvard economists and financial crisis historians whose work has been attacked and embraced by the political right and left.

The study, presented over the weekend at the annual meeting of the American Economic Association, rejects comparisons with regular postwar U.S. recoveries, as other economists have made, and instead examines 100 major, or "systemic," financial crises that have occurred over the last two centuries, in the U.S. and abroad. It found that relative to previous U.S. financial crises, the current economy is doing substantially better. Across nine major financial crises in the United States, the average peak-to-trough decline in inflation-adjusted per-capita gross domestic product is about 9 percent, and it has taken an average of 6.7 years to recover to the precrisis peak. During the years after crises, five of the nine episodes also had a "double-dip" downturn. By contrast, the recent subprime crisis beginning in 2007 had "only" a 5 percent drop in per capita output, and took "only" six years to get back to the precrisis peak. And so far, at least, there has been no second downward turn.

Employment and other measurements remain well below their precrisis peaks, but it is difficult to compare those numbers to past crises because the historical data for those categories is not as reliable, Reinhart said. Relative to its peer countries, the study says, the U.S. is also doing unusually well.

Eleven other countries experienced systemic crises around the time the U.S. did: France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Ukraine and Britain. Six years later, just two of them - the U.S. and Germany - have recovered to their previous peak in real income.

While the U.S. has been doing well relative to historical crises, the other advanced countries seem to be doing especially poorly compared with their performance after previous crises. "This crisis may in the end surpass in severity the Great Depression in a large number of countries," Reinhart said in an interview. "In fact, it may very well have one of the most protracted and painful recoveries for advanced countries in the aggregate." Historical data shows that it takes about 7.4 years for the average advanced country that experienced a major crisis to reach its prior peak in real per-capita income; with nearly seven years gone by since the 2007 crisis began, many advanced countries still appear to be contracting. Reinhart offered a few explanations for why the study showed the United States doing unusually well compared with both its past self and its current peers, however bad it still feels to the typical U.S. worker. Among the biggest likely contributors are the major monetary and fiscal stimulus measures U.S. policymakers undertook early in the crisis, which helped limit losses from the recession.

*Continued on Page 27*

## US stock market starts week sluggish

STEVE ROTHWELL

AP Markets Reporter

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Standard & Poor's 500 index notched its worst start to a year in almost a decade Monday, closing lower for the third straight trading day.

Although the declines for stocks in the New Year have been modest, the direction has been consistently down. The Standard & Poor's 500 index has fallen 1.2 percent from its

breath from a pretty strong run at year-end," said Jim Russell, a regional investment director at US Bank. The Standard & Poor's 500 fell 4.60 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,826.77. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 44.89, or 0.3 percent, to 16,425.10. The Nasdaq composite fell 18.23, or 0.4 percent, to 4,113.68. The weak start to the year is not a good omen for stock investors. The last time the S&P 500 dropped on the

year low, according to a report from the Institute for Supply Management. The report suggests that growth may remain modest in the coming months.

Factory orders climbed 1.8 percent in November, led by a surge in aircraft demand, the Commerce Department said.

The most closely watched economic report of the week will come on Friday when the Labor Department is scheduled to re-



**Stock trader Gregory Rowe works at the New York Stock Exchange, in New York. Stocks are getting off to a mixed start, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, on the first full week of trading of the year.**

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

most recent record close on Dec. 31. The performance is a contrast to last year, when the S&P 500 surged almost 30 percent, its best annual gain since 1997. The banner year ended with the stock market climbing to record levels amid signs that the economy was strengthening. "The market is basically looking for additional confirmation of economic strength and maybe marking time as it catches its

opening three trading days of the year in 2005, the index climbed just 3 percent for the whole year.

Despite the slow start, many analysts say it's too early to call a change in the market's upward trend. Reports on the economy Monday contained some hopeful signs.

U.S. service companies grew at a steady but slightly slower pace in December. Sales dipped and new orders dropped to a four-

lease its jobs survey for December. That's going to influence the Fed's decisions on how fast to reduce its bond purchases in the coming months.

Company earnings reports also start coming out this week, providing another catalyst that may lift the market. Alcoa, a former Dow stock, will be one of the first major companies to report its fourth quarter earnings after the close of trading on Thursday. □

## Verso Paper buying NewPage in \$1.4B deal

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Coated papers maker Verso Paper is buying NewPage Holdings Inc. in a deal valued at \$1.4 billion including debt. Privately held NewPage produces printing and specialty papers. Verso President and CEO David Paterson said in a statement on Monday that the buyout will put it in a better position to face increased competition. Paterson will lead the combined company, which will have 11 manufacturing plants in six

states and sales of about \$4.5 billion. The deal includes \$250 million in cash and \$650 million of new Verso first lien notes that will be issued at closing. NewPage will also receive Verso shares representing 20 percent of the outstanding stock immediately prior to closing. This amount may be adjusted to up to 25 percent under certain circumstances. The deal also includes the refinancing of NewPage's \$500 million term loan. The transaction

is anticipated to result in at least \$175 million in pre-tax cost savings. These savings are expected within the first 18 months after the deal's completion. A NewPage director will join Verso's board at closing. The deal was unanimously approved by both companies' boards. It is targeted to close in the second half of the year.

Shares of Verso Paper Corp. more than quadrupled, rising \$2.01 to \$2.66 in morning trading. □





**A T-Mobile sign sits in front of an outlet shop in an American shopping mall. T-Mobile said Monday that it's reached deals to buy spectrum licenses from Verizon Wireless for \$2.37 billion in cash, allowing it to improve certain kinds of cellular service in markets across the U.S. (Handout Photo)**

### T-Mobile to buy spectrum licenses from Verizon

**BELLEVUE, Washington (AP)** — T-Mobile said Monday that it's reached deals to buy spectrum licenses from Verizon Wireless for \$2.37 billion in cash, allowing it to improve certain kinds of cellular service in markets across the U.S.

The agreements also include the transfer of other kinds of spectrum licenses from T-Mobile to Verizon Wireless that the companies value at about \$950 million.

The deals, combined with T-Mobile's existing holdings, will give T-Mobile low-band spectrum in nine of the top 10 U.S. markets.

Low-band spectrum boosts cellular coverage inside buildings and in rural areas. It also has the ability to travel greater distances than high-band spectrum, making it a more efficient way to provide coverage at the edge of cities and in less densely populated areas. Combined with T-Mobile's existing holdings, the low-band spectrum will cover about 158 million people in U.S. markets including New York, Los Angeles, Dallas, Houston, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Washington, D.C., and Detroit.

T-Mobile USA, the No. 4 U.S. carrier, is owned by Germany's Deutsche Telekom AG. □

## US factory orders up on planes, business spending

**JOSH BOAK**

**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. factories orders climbed in November, led by a surge in aircraft demand. And businesses stepped up spending on machinery, computers and other long-lasting goods, a sign of investment that could fuel economic growth.

Factory orders rose 1.8 percent in November, the Commerce Department said Monday. That follows a 0.5 percent decrease in October.

Orders received by manufacturers totaled a seasonally adjusted \$497.8 billion in November, the highest level on records dating to 1992. Orders have increased 2.5 percent over

the past 12 months.

The improvements could signal accelerating growth in 2014. Americans are buying more cars and homes, increasing demand for steel, furniture and other goods. That has led factories to hire more workers, generating additional economic momentum.

Still, overall economic growth remains modest by historical standards. And though factory orders have strengthened in recent months, their growth rate has slowed during the recovery from the 2008 financial crisis.

A 21.8 percent jump in volatile aircraft orders drove the November gains. But orders rose in many other categories, a sign of strength at

factories and confidence among companies.

Core capital goods, a proxy for business investment, rose 4.1 percent. Economists watch this category because it excludes volatile orders for aircraft and defense equipment. Demand also rose for construction machinery, computers, communications equipment, furniture and motor vehicle parts.

Most of the gains occurred in long-lasting goods, which increased 3.4 percent in November. Orders for nondurable goods such as food products, clothing and paper rose a modest 0.3 percent.

Separate economic reports indicate that manufacturing has remained

strong and could drive further growth.

Factory activity in December remained near a 2½-year high, according to the Institute for Supply Management. The trade group said last week that its index of manufacturing activity slipped to 57 in from 57.3 in November. That's still the second-highest reading since April 2011. And any reading above 50 signals growth.

Manufacturers have also bolstered hiring in recent months. Factories added 66,000 jobs from July through November, according to government's employment reports. The government releases its December employment report on Friday. □

## Men's Wearhouse boosts bid for Jos. A. Bank

**FREMONT, California (AP)** — Despite rebuked overtures on both sides, The Men's Wearhouse and Jos. A. Bank could wind up together for better or worse. The courtship to combine the two men's clothing companies has dragged on for months, with each chain having their offer to acquire the other rebuffed. And the saga to combine the two rivals took another turn on Monday when Men's Wearhouse boosted its offer to acquire Jos. A. Bank to \$1.61 billion.

While the companies continue to play hard to get, analysts say a combination is inevitable. It would enable both chains to cut costs and boost profits in an increasingly competitive market in which shoppers are scrutinizing their purchases more.

But so far executives have been unable to hammer out a deal despite interest on both sides.

The Men's Wearhouse Inc. is now offering \$57.50 per share for Jos. A. Bank, up from its prior offer of \$55 per share, or \$1.54 billion. Jos. A. Bank rejected the previous offer in late December, saying it was too low. Men's Wearhouse said it is taking the bid directly to Jos. A. Bank Clothiers Inc. shareholders.

It also plans to nominate two people to the Jos. A. Bank board.

"We are committed to this combination," Men's Wearhouse President and CEO Doug Ewert said in a statement.

ent time said shareholders should take no action related to the tender offer.

The announcement by Men's Wearhouse comes three days after Jos. A. Bank Clothiers Inc. lowered the trigger for its share-

acquire more stock at a discounted rate to ward off the investor collecting a big stake. Jos. A. Bank cut its trigger to a 10 percent ownership stake from a 20 percent ownership stake — the same ownership



**Pedestrians pass in front of a Men's Wearhouse outlet. Despite rebuked overtures on both sides, The Men's Wearhouse and Jos. A. Bank could wind up together for better or worse. (Handout Photo)**

Jos. A. Bank said in a statement that it is reviewing the offer and will make a recommendation for shareholders by Jan. 17. But the company said at the pres-

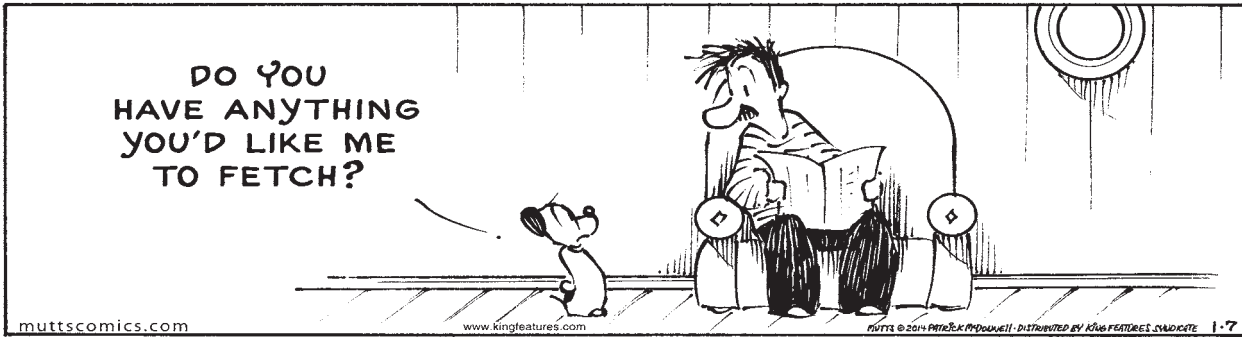
holder rights plan, which is typically used to help ward off hostile takeover attempts. A shareholder rights plan usually allows existing shareholders to

threshold as Men's Wearhouse's shareholder rights plan.

Jos. A. Banks was the first to express interest in a combined company. □



Mutts



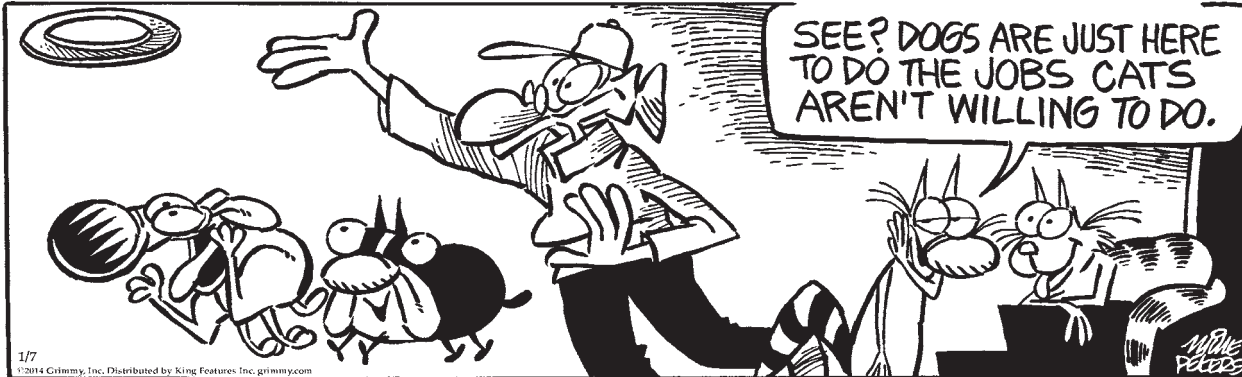
6 Chix



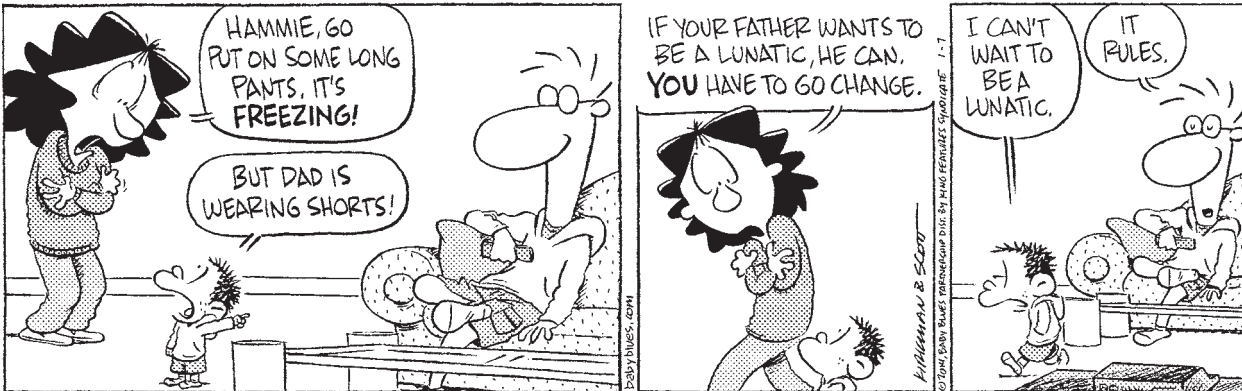
Blondie



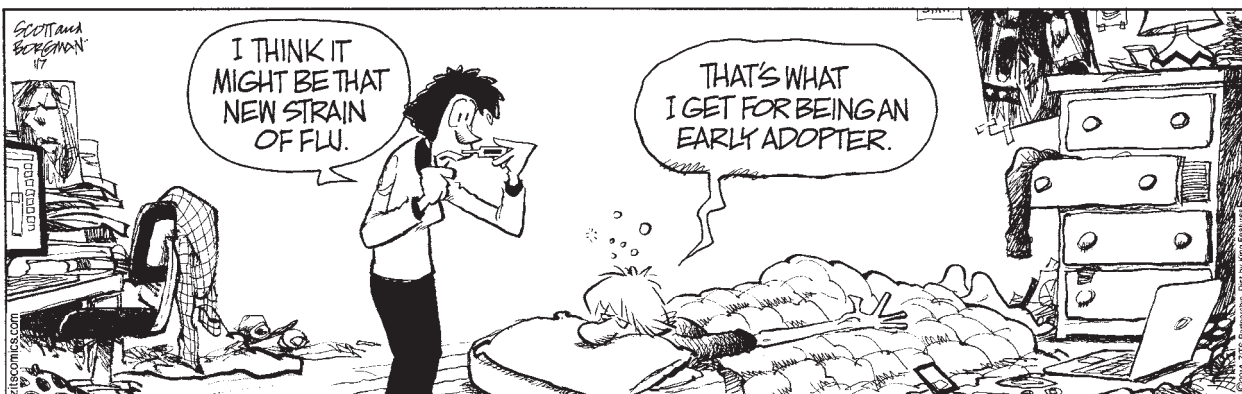
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

9			2			7
			9	6		
	5	1			2	3
	9			1		8
7						5
	6			8		7
	4	5			7	9
			1	8		
1				5		2

Difficulty Level ★★

1/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

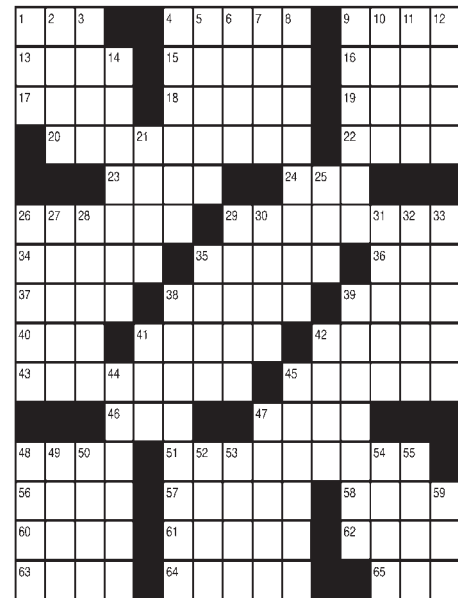
6	5	3	8	1	9	7	4	2
7	2	8	6	5	4	3	1	9
1	9	4	2	3	7	5	8	6
2	7	5	1	8	6	4	9	3
3	6	1	4	9	5	8	2	7
8	4	9	3	7	2	1	6	5
5	8	2	9	4	3	6	7	1
4	3	6	7	2	1	9	5	8
9	1	7	5	6	8	2	3	4

ACROSS

- JFK's youngest brother
- Flirtatious looks
- Mark left after surgery
- Plow animals
- Orchard
- \_\_ a ball; enjoy oneself
- List of dishes
- Metal pin
- Sudden attack
- Bank \_\_; monthly mailing of account info
- Conclusions
- Overly curious
- Regulation
- Early calculator
- City in Scotland
- Command
- Frighten
- Boxing great
- Regrets
- Oats
- Very excited
- \_\_ over; capsize
- Acts of bravery
- Thin pancake
- Eland orgnu
- Mel or José
- Piece of china
- Drink made with ice cream
- Former Iranian leader's title
- Mishaps
- Vagabond
- Circular
- Prod
- \_\_ of Wight
- Funeral song
- Thus
- Have to have
- Look of contempt
- Sup

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1/7/14



Monday's Puzzle Solved

PHONE	CRAB	ILLS
RAVES	LATE	MEAL
EVERT	AREA	PAPA
PERVERSE	GLOSSY	
	EVES	FLUSHES
CHOSEN	ELECT	
HEN	ZEBRA	KOOKS
OATS	WORST	RINK
WRONG	REHAB	LEI
	OOZED	LESSEN
OCTOBER	DULL	
CHOPIN	CASUALTY	
COTE	IRON	STORE
USER	THAT	HELEN
REDS	HOLE	ISLES

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1/7/14

DOWN

- Actor Selleck
- Old ladies?
- Fender bender memento
- Mean woman in a fairy tale
- Dirty; grubby
- Reason to wed
- Get \_\_; take revenge
- Homesteaders
- Clever
- Actor James \_\_
- Gung-ho
- Scarlet and maroon
- Very subtle differences
- Sightseeing trip
- \_\_ You Lonesome Tonight?; Elvis Presley song
- Major artery
- UCLA athlete
- Skillful
- Sudden and sharp, as pain
- Nocturnal flying mammals
- Ready & willing
- Wed on the run
- African nation
- Daytime serial
- Spotted felines
- Put in order

- Respiratory ailment
- Give up, as land
- Resounded
- Grain in a silo
- Burn at the edges
- Part of the lower leg
- Rubber tube
- Qualified
- Dime or quarter
- Remedy
- \_\_ off; left suddenly
- Long tale
- Speck



## Study suggests recovery in U.S. remains relatively vital

*Continued from Page 24*

The United States also had some effective restructuring of debt through foreclosures. In some states, when the house is seized, borrowers do not usually still owe the balance of the loan. In much of Europe, Reinhart said, "You lose your house, but not the debt."

Finally, and perhaps most significant, the United

high debt and lower growth was cited by congressional Republicans to justify austerity measures, she said her work overall had instead emphasized debt restructuring as a useful policy response.

"If you're going to engage in austerity, your best shot is if you at least couple it with something else, like debt write-offs, or inflation," she said. "But they're all ugly scenarios, really."



**Kenneth Rogoff, left, and Carmen Reinhart, Harvard economists and financial crisis historians whose work has been attacked and embraced by the political right and left, at Reinhart's home in Washington. Rogoff and Reinhart conclude in a study, presented over the weekend of Jan. 4, 2013, that, relative to previous American financial crises, the current economy is doing substantially better.**

(Mary F. Calvert/The New York Times)

States was still able to borrow money easily as the rest of the world sought safe assets. These enthusiastic lenders allowed U.S. politicians to avoid the truly crippling austerity measures that countries like Greece resorted to in order to try to pay their bills.

"Why would any politician in their right mind undertake the kinds of austerity measures Greece has done? Because no one will lend to them, and existing creditors want full repayment," Reinhart said. "When the rest of the world is unwilling to lend, you do things that are driven by necessity."

Reinhart said one of the policy implications of the new study was that Europe needed to engage in substantially more restructuring, both of public and private debt.

While an earlier, much debated paper that she wrote with Rogoff about the correlation between

Asked about the debate on whether some underlying "secular stagnation" might have also predated the subprime crisis, as Lawrence H. Summers, her Harvard colleague and a former Obama administration official, has been arguing, she said it was too soon to tell. But she said the long-term decline in labor force participation was worrisome. In a talk at the weekend conference, Summers reiterated his concerns about slow growth that in his view began before the crisis and that he had previously discussed in a speech in November at the International Monetary Fund. These doldrums, he said on Saturday, stem from factors including slower population growth, a possible decline in technology innovation and changes in the distribution of income - not only between the rich and poor but also between corporations and households. □



### **Marriott Aruba Surf Club**

Platinum Season  
Oceanview \$16000  
Oceanside \$17500  
Oceanfront \$27500  
3 BEDRM \$27000  
Plat Plus Holiday 51  
OV -\$42k  
Plat Plus NY 52 OV- \$49k  
GOLD Season  
OS \$10k OV \$9500  
Oceanfront \$17k  
3 BEDRM OV \$17,000

### **Marriott Aruba Ocean Club**

Platinum 2B OV \$18k  
Oceanfront PLAT \$29k  
Platinum 1B OV \$11,500  
Gold season 2B OV \$9,000  
Oceanfront 2B \$14,500  
1B Oceanfront \$8,500

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Costa Linda & Playa Linda inventory  
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# 5 things to know about the record-breaking freeze

By TAMMY WEBBER

Associated Press

**CHICAGO (AP)** -- Much of the country grappled Monday with a historic freeze that shuttered schools and businesses at the start of the first full work week of 2014. Flights, trains and bus transportation were disrupted, thousands were left without power and even parts of the country used to fending off hypothermia and frostbite had to take extra precautions as temperatures and wind chills approached record levels.

Here are five things to know about the deep freeze. Also, take a look at a photo gallery highlighting how people in the Midwest and elsewhere were dealing with the polar vortex.

## 1. COLD OUTSIDE? YOU'RE NOT ALONE

Nearly 187 million people, more than half of the nation's population, were under a wind chill warning or advisory Monday.

The winds made it feel like 55 below zero in International Falls, Minn., and parts of the Midwest accustomed to temperatures that are cold - albeit seldom this cold.

But even the coal fields of Virginia and West Virginia, the wind chill was negative 35.

Every major weather-reporting station in Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin reported temperatures below zero at 11 a.m. Monday, and South Dakota would have joined them if not for the reading of 1 at Rapid City. The coldest temperature reported in a 24-hour period through Monday was -36 degrees at Crane Lake, Minn. The warmest: 84 at Hollywood and Punta



Gorda, Fla.

## 2. FLY AWAY FROM THE WEATHER? THINK AGAIN

Nearly 3,200 flights - one out of every 10 domestic departures - were canceled Monday morning, following a weekend of travel disruption across the country. The bulk of those cancellations were in Chicago, Cleveland, New York and Boston.

"It's been one weather system after another," said Delta Air Lines spokesman Morgan Durrant. "It's been a challenging 72 hours."

With wind chills as low as 45 below zero at some airports, workers could only remain exposed on the ramp for a few minutes. That made loading and unloading luggage a challenge.

American Airlines said temperatures are so cold at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport that fuel and de-icing liquids were actually frozen. United Airlines said its fuel is pumping slower than normal in Chicago.

Passengers reported long lines at airports as they tried to rebook on other flights. United Airlines had so many phone calls that it was suggesting travelers use its website to rebook.

In recent years, airlines have cut the number of flights to ensure that most of their planes depart full. That's been great for their bottom line but leaves very few empty seats to rebook stranded travelers. Sometimes, it takes days to get everybody where they should be.

## 3. GROUND TRAVEL DISRUPTED, TOO

Planes weren't the only form of mass transportation disrupted by the historic freeze. There also were widespread delays and cancellations in ground transportation - including Amtrak, buses and commuter trains.

Officials with Chicago's commuter rail, Metra, said there were multiple accidents, including one in which 14 passengers reported injuries - and six were taken to the hospital with minor injuries - after a train hit a "bumping post" at a downtown station. Spokesman Michael Gillis said the cause of the collision was under investigation but was due to the weather.

Weather-related engine problems forced an

Amtrak train carrying 200 passengers to stop for more than 8 1/2 hours in southwestern Michigan before arriving early Monday morning in Chicago.

A spokesman said heat, lights and toilets continued to operate while crews tried to solve the problem. Spokesman Marc Magliari said it eventually was connected to another westbound train and arrived in Chicago around 1:30 a.m. CST.

And the Southern Illinois men's basketball team spent the night on a church floor in central Illinois after their bus got stuck in a snowdrift on Interstate 57 following Sunday's loss at Illinois State. A tow truck pulled the bus from the side

the road around midnight - hours after they first ended up on the side of the road.

## 4. STORM LEAVES THOUSANDS IN THE DARK

Widespread power outages were being blamed on the storm, including in Indiana, where crews worked to restore services for more than 40,000 customers. Utility officials cautioned some people could be in the cold and dark until Thursday.

"Due to the extreme conditions, damage is significant," Indianapolis Power & Light spokeswoman Katie Bunton said.

State officials said sites without power included the residential portion of the governor's residence in Indianapolis.

Gov. Mike Pence noted during a news conference Monday that the house has "lots of fireplaces" but urged others without power to go to a shelter if necessary.

The city of Indianapolis evacuated more than 400 residents without heat or power, said Marc Lotter, a spokesman for Mayor Greg Ballard. Many found temporary comfort at warming centers set up around the city, while those needing long-term shelter were sent to the American Red Cross.

Utility officials reported more than 1,600 residents in eastern Missouri also remained without power Monday afternoon. □

# Israeli parliament aims to be world's greenest

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Israel's parliament plans on becoming the "greenest in the world" by generating its own electricity and through other environmentally friendly initiatives. Parliament speaker Yuli Edelstein made the announcement Wednesday at the launch of the two-year project aimed at saving energy and minimizing the building's ecological footprint.

In a statement, parliament said plans include building a 4,500-square-meter (yard) solar panel field to produce electricity, automatically shutting computers at the end of the day, measuring the amount of water used for irrigation and consumption as well as various other energy conservation drives. It said the initiatives will cost NIS 7 million (about US\$2 million). □

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## Jim Norton joins Broadway's 'Of Mice and Men'

**MARK KENNEDY**  
AP Drama Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Jim Norton will join James Franco and Chris O'Dowd in the Broadway revival of "Of Mice and Men."

Producers said Monday that Norton, whose recent credits include "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" and a Tony Award-winning turn in "The Seafarer," will play aging ranch handyman Candy.

The story by John Steinbeck centers on big-dreaming George, played by Franco, and the mentally challenged Lennie, portrayed by O'Dowd. Former "Gossip Girl" star Leighton Meester will play a beautiful temptress.

The play, which starts performances March 19 at the Longacre Theatre, hasn't been seen on Broadway in 40 years. Tony Award winner Anna D. Shapiro will direct.

Norton is currently perform-



**This Nov. 6, 2007 file photo shows actor Jim Norton posing for a picture on the set of "The Seafarer" in New York.**

**Associated Press**

ing in Conor McPherson's "The Night Alive" at the Atlantic Theatre Company. □

## 'Downton' draws record audience for season debut

**NEW YORK (AP)** — "Downton Abbey" drew a record-breaking audience for Sunday's much-anticipated season premiere.

PBS and WGBH-TV announced Monday that the fourth-season debut of the lush British miniseries attracted 10.2 million viewers, according to Nielsen Fast National data.

This audience improves upon the viewership of the third-season premiere by 22 percent. PBS says it's the highest-rated drama premiere in network history.

The two-hour episode picks up the action six months after the sudden death of Downton heir Matthew Crawley on last season's finale.

"Downton Abbey" airs on the "Masterpiece" anthology, which is presented on

PBS by WGBH Boston. Stars include Hugh Bonneville, Michelle Dockery and Maggie Smith. □

## Sweet dream: Eurythmics uniting at Beatles tribute

**MESFIN FEKADU**  
AP Music Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Eurythmics are reuniting — to pay tribute to the Beatles.

The Recording Academy announced Monday that Annie Lennox and Dave Stewart will perform as a duo for "The Night That Changed America: A Grammy Salute to the Beatles." The event will be taped at the Los Angeles Convention Center on Jan. 27, a day after the Grammy Awards.

Longtime Grammys producer Ken Ehrlich, who is also producing the Beatles special, thought the Eurythmics would be ideal to honor the iconic group.

"When it came around to booking this show, what I felt was important was to try and find those artists who not only would be able to interpret Beatles songs, but would also have an ... understanding of what they meant," he said in an interview.

The Eurythmics, who sold millions of albums and whose hits include "Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)," released their debut in 1981. Ehrlich said Lennox and Stewart, who have launched successful solo careers, are thrilled to perform in tribute to the Beatles.

Ehrlich wouldn't say which



**This June 10, 2000, file photo shows Annie Lennox, left, and Dave Stewart as the Eurythmics performing on stage at the Rock at the Ring three-day music festival at the Nuerburgring race circuit in Nuerburg, Germany.**

**Associated Press**

Beatles tune the British duo would perform, but John Mayer and Keith Urban will pair up to perform "Don't Let Me Down," while Alicia Keys and John Legend will perform a duet on "Let It Be." Maroon 5 also will hit the stage.

The special will air on CBS on Feb. 9 — exactly 50 years after the Beatles made their U.S. debut on "The Ed Sullivan Show." An estimated 73 million viewers tuned in to watch the event, which has become one of the world's top cultural moments.

"They really did change people's lives, so what I'm hoping this show ... gets

across is the message that occasionally in history we are touched by certain artists who have a profound effect on us beyond just the music that they make," Ehrlich said.

Ehrlich wouldn't confirm if Paul McCartney or Ringo Starr would attend the event, though the Beatles will be honored with a lifetime achievement award two days earlier at the Recording Academy's Special Merit Awards in Los Angeles.

The special will include about a dozen performances, Ehrlich said. More performers will be announced at a later date. □

## NBC's 'Saturday Night Live' hires a black woman

**By DAVID BAUDER**  
AP Television Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — NBC's comic institution "Saturday Night Live,"

criticized recently for a lack of diversity, said on Monday that it was adding a black woman to its repertory cast when new episodes start again later this month. Sasheer Zamata, a recent University of Virginia graduate who has worked with the New York Upright Citizens Brigade comedy troupe,

will join for the Jan. 18 episode, for which Drake is the

host and the musical guest. The 137 regular cast members who have been part of "Saturday Night Live" since its 1975 debut have been mostly white and have included only four black women.

The most recent was biracial Maya Rudolph, who left in 2007. Black men, including Eddie Murphy, Tracy Morgan and Chris Rock, have played more prominent roles.

The lack of a black woman among the 16 regular or featured players became an issue this season when

the two black male cast members, Kenan Thompson and Jay Pharoah, commented publicly about it and made it known they would no longer dress in drag to portray black women.

"SNL" turned the issue into comedy when "Scandal" star Kerry Washington was a guest host.

Washington was portrayed as exasperated when she was asked to impersonate first lady Michelle Obama, Oprah Winfrey and Beyonce in the same skit.

At the top of the show, an

"SNL" producer apologized for the number of black female characters Washington needed to play that night.

Behind the scenes, though, "SNL" founding executive producer Lorne Michaels was busy holding comedy showcases across the country, searching for a black woman to join the cast.

"It's not like it's not a priority for us," Michaels said two months ago. "It will happen. I'm sure it will happen." □



# NYC museum presents 'The Little Prince' exhibit

ULA ILNYTZKY

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Antoine de Saint-Exupery crafted "The Little Prince" in New York City, mentioning Rockefeller Center and Long Island in one draft of the beloved children's tale — references he ultimately deleted.

That page is contained in the French author's original handwritten manuscript, which is the subject of a major exhibition at the Morgan Library and Museum on the 70th anniversary of the book's French publication — a year after its U.S. debut.

"The Little Prince: A New York Story," which opens Jan. 24, features 35 of his original watercolors and 25 pages from his heavily revised 140-page text, written in Saint-Exupery's tiny script.

Some visitors may be surprised to learn that "The Little Prince," which has been translated into more than 250 languages and dialects, was written and first published in New York.

"It's well documented that he wrote the book here, but it's not well known to the general public," said Christine Nelson, curator of literary and historical manuscripts at the Morgan.

"Because the manuscript



This undated photo provided by the Morgan Library and Museum shows a drawing from Antoine de Saint-Exupery's beloved children's tale "The Little Prince," which is the subject of a major exhibition at the Morgan Library and Museum in New York on the 70th anniversary of the book's publication.

brings you back to the moment of creation, we wanted to set the exhibition in the place and time of creation," she said. "It focuses on the emergence of this work in New York during the war. He was writing it just within miles of where this exhibition is being shown." Saint-Exupery, a French aviator and best-selling author, didn't live to see his book published in France after the war. He died while piloting a reconnaissance flight in 1944, weeks before the liberation of Paris.

"The Little Prince" tells the adventures of a boy who hails from a tiny asteroid no larger than a house. On his way to Earth, he visits other planets and meets a king, a conceited man,

a drunkard, a lamplighter and a geographer. On Earth, he encounters a fox who teaches him: "What is essential is invisible to the eye."

The phrase is the book's central theme and one Saint-Exupery revised 15 times, including the version "What matters cannot be seen."

Saint-Exupery came to New York after France fell to Germany in 1940. He spent two years living near Central Park and Manhattan's East Side and renting a summer home on Long Island's North Shore. Frequently, he wrote at the Park Avenue home of his close friend Silvia (Hamilton) Reinhardt. He entrusted his handwritten manuscript to her be-

fore he rejoined his squadron in North Africa.

The Morgan acquired the manuscript from her in 1968, the museum said. Saint-Exupery's French publisher, Gallimard, has just published a facsimile of the working manuscript.

"This is very much a preliminary draft, a work in progress and yet to anyone who knows the book well it will be entirely recognizable," Nelson said.

Among the exhibition's highlights is an unpublished drawing that Saint-Exupery had wadded up and tossed showing the prince wearing his signature yellow scarf floating over Earth. Some of the illustrations are paired with images from the first edition.

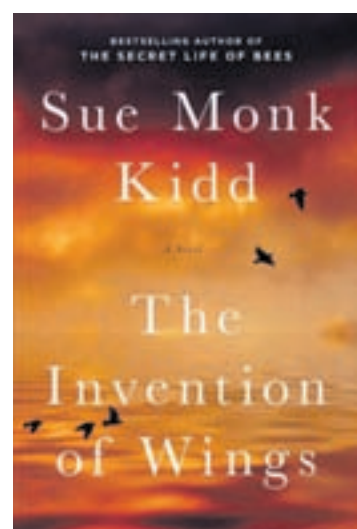
The pages on view include episodes from the prince's time on Earth that were deleted entirely from the final version: a meeting with a storekeeper who gives him a lesson on marketing and an encounter with an investor who has a machine that meets every need with just the push of a button.

"He was a very diligent author. He worked, labored, revised, read out loud to people ... he was very interested in people's response to the story," Nelson said.

There's also a three-page draft of an alternate ending in which the narrator muses about what happened to the little prince after he left Earth.

"It's much more agonized and melancholy and reads as a war-time text," Nelson said. The exhibition also features a silver identity bracelet that Saint-Exupery was wearing when he was killed. It is on loan from Saint-Exupery's Paris estate.

The bracelet, never before exhibited in the U.S., "was recovered in 1998 after it was snagged in a fisherman's net and bears the author's name and the New York address of his American publisher" Reynal & Hitchcock, said Olivier d'Agay, the estate's director. □



This book cover image released by Viking shows "The Invention of Wings," by Sue Monk Kidd.

Associated Press

RASHA MADKOUR

Associated Press

**Meet Handful**, 10 years old, a sewing prodigy and a

## New Kidd novel follows lives of slave, unwilling owner

slave. Meet Sarah, 11 years old, a voracious reader and Handful's unwitting owner. They are the stars and alternating narrators of Sue Monk Kidd's new novel, "The Invention of Wings."

Kidd, whose best-selling debut, "The Secret Life of Bees," was the basis of a movie starring Queen Latifah, Alicia Keys and Jennifer Hudson, again explores an unusual relationship between black and white female characters.

This time, she bases the novel on the life of Sarah Grimke, a 19th-century

abolitionist from an affluent plantation-owning family in North Carolina.

Kidd imagines Grimke as having witnessed a slave flogging at age 4, an event so traumatic that it left her with a mostly lifelong stutter.

When presented with her own slave on her birthday, the precocious Sarah — who fancies a future as a jurist — consults her father's library and draws up a manumission document. The next morning, she finds it at her bedroom door, torn in two.

The book's characters tend toward caricatures and its plotlines are mostly unsurprising. But Kidd writes beautifully and the book shines brightest in illuminating the daily humiliations and abuse of slavery. The inhumane working conditions are illustrated by Handful's pithy observation while beating washed bed sheets on a rail to dry: "The rail in the stable was forbidden cause the horses had eyes too precious for lye. Slave eyes were another thing."

The disregard for familial re-

lationships is painfully clear when marriage and death in the Grimke family leads to the redistribution and sale of slaves' children and siblings.

Most excruciating are the descriptions of the various punishments inflicted on slaves, from liberal cane-whippings to a gruesomely creative one-legged punishment to the treacherously hard labor at the city's Work House.

"The Invention of Wings" isn't Kidd's strongest work, but it's an absorbing, illuminating, enjoyable read. □



# Indoctrinating Religious Warriors



**CHARLES M. BLOW**  
© 2014 New York Times

In 2009, the gap between the share of Republicans and Democrats who believed in evolution was just 10 percentage points, 54 percent and 64 percent, respectively.

Last year, that gap widened to a whopping 24 points because as the percentage of Democrats who believed in evolution inched up to 67 percent, the percentage of Republicans believing so plummeted to 43 percent. Now, more Republicans believe that "humans and other living things have existed in their present form since the beginning of time" than believe in evolution.

This sad news comes via a survey released this week by the Pew Research Center's Religion & Public Life Project.

In fact, this isn't only sad; it's embarrassing.

I don't personally have a problem with religious faith, even in the extreme, as long as it doesn't supersede science and it's not used to impose outdated mores on others.

But some people see our extreme religiosity itself as a form of dysfunction. In a 2009 paper in the journal *Evolutionary Psychology*, Gregory Paul, an independent researcher, put it this way: "The level of relative and absolute societal pathology in the United States is often so severe that it is repeatedly an outlier that strongly reinforces the correlation between high levels of poor societal conditions and popular religiosity."

But I believe that something else is also at play here, something more cynical. I believe this is a natural result of a long-running ploy by Republican party leaders to play on the most base convictions of conservative voters in order to solidify their support. Convince people that they're fighting a religious war for religious freedom, a war in which passion and devotion are one's weapons against doubt and confusion, and you make loyal soldiers.

There has been anti-science propagandizing running unchecked on the right for years, from anti-gay-equality misinformation to climate change denials. When you look at white evangelical Protestants, the evolution denialism gets even worse. Only 27 percent of that

group believes in evolution. According to a 2011 Pew report, while white evangelical Protestants make up only 18 percent of the population overall, they "make up 43 percent of Republicans who fall into the category of staunch conservatives."

Pew defines "staunch conservatives" as those who "take extremely conservative positions on nearly all issues - on the size and role of government, on economics, foreign policy, social issues and moral concerns. Most agree with the Tea Party, and even more very strongly disapprove of Barack Obama's job performance."

Pew found that most staunch conservatives were regular viewers of Fox News, preferring the network to any other news source.

Fox has helped to ingrain the idea that Republicanism and religiosity are embattled and oppressed, fighting for survival against the forces of secular extremists.

There was, for instance, the Fox News-fabricated "War on Christmas" and its fight against the "Happy Holidays Syndrome." The face of the network's defense-of-Christmas crusade has been the "Killing Jesus" co-author Bill O'Reilly, who this season declared a victory. In December, he said on his show: "It isn't a mythical war on Christmas. It's real, and we just won."

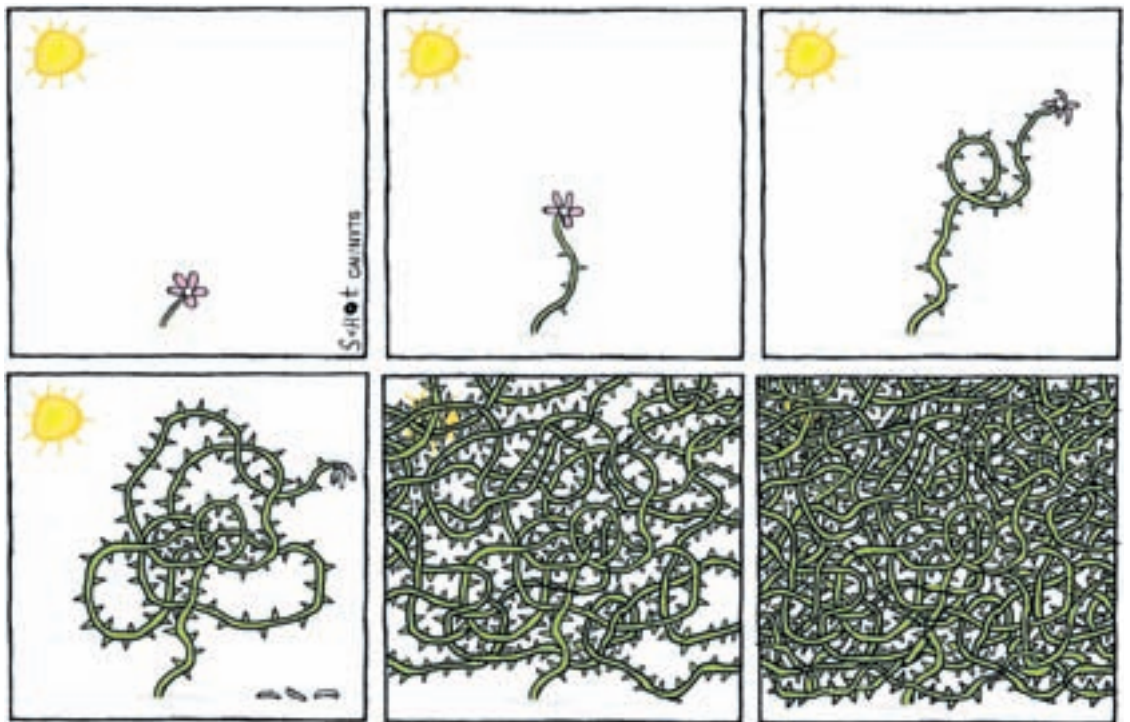
But Fox is not alone. The Christians-on-the-defensive stance was front and center in the 2012 Republican presidential primaries. During a debate in January of that year, this question from a Virginia man was put to the candidates: "Given that you oppose gay marriage, what do you want gay people to do who want to form loving, committed, long-term relationships? What is your solution?"

Newt Gingrich responded, in part citing "secular bigotry": "The bigotry question goes both ways, and there's a lot more anti-Christian bigotry today than there is concern on the other side, and none of it gets covered by the news media."

There was a sustained round of applause for Gingrich's statement. So of course, the eventual nominee, the self-proclaimed "severely conservative" eater of "cheesy grits" Mitt Romney, had to ride Gingrich's coattails by chiming in, "As you can tell, the people in this room feel that Speaker Gingrich is absolutely right, and I do too."

Last year, the Liberty Institute and the Family Research Council released an updated, 189-page version of a book called "Undeniable: The Survey of Hostility to Religion in America."

This is a tactic to keep the Republican rank-and-file riled up, to divert their attention from areas of common sense and the common good. After all, infidels are deserving of your enmity, not your empathy. □



ARAB SPRING

# Brazil Is Abuzz About Snowden



**JOE NOCERA**  
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**RIO DE JANEIRO** - When I visited China in June, my trip happened to coincide with the discovery that Edward Snowden was hiding out in Hong Kong. By then, Snowden's revelations about the voracious data-collection operation by the National Security Agency was front-page news all over the world. Snowden hadn't yet been charged for the leak of tens of thousands of pages of classified NSA documents, but it was clear that it was coming. So it was only natural to ask - as many journalists did - would Hong Kong give Snowden asylum if he requested it?

Now I'm in Brazil, where I've spent the last few weeks, and wouldn't you know it? A question very much in the air here is whether Brazil would grant Snowden asylum once his temporary stay in Russia comes to an end. In recent weeks, Snowden had twice expressed publicly his desire to gain asylum to Brazil, once in an open letter published in a newspaper in São Paulo - in which he said he would cooperate with Brazilian authorities investigating the NSA once he was safely inside the country - and then, somewhat more cautiously, in a television interview.

With the possible exception of Germany, there isn't another nation as publicly irate over the eavesdropping on its citizens

and its government as Brazil. Upon learning that the NSA had spied on her personal communications, Brazil's president, Dilma Rousseff, canceled a state visit. Then, during a speech to the United Nations, she excoriated the United States, even as President Barack Obama stood in the wings. Along with Germany, Brazil has rekindled a long-stalled effort to create a new structure for Internet governance, one that would be less dependent on American companies and American networks. Virgílio Fernandes Almeida, a government official who is chairman of the country's Internet Steering Committee, told me that there was no question that the Snowden revelations helped jump-start the effort.

Indeed, two weeks ago, a \$4 billion contract for a fighter jet, in which Boeing was said to be the front-runner, went to a unit of Saab instead. Although Saab was the lowest-cost bidder, "The NSA problem ruined it for the Americans," a Brazilian government source told Reuters.

"Brazil was one of the most targeted countries," said Glenn Greenwald, the journalist who is based here and is closest to Snowden. "It was more than even Russia or China."

What is also true is that Greenwald, who has published dozens of stories in *The Guardian* based on the documents Snowden supplied, did his best to stoke Brazil's rage. After every print revelation - *O Globo*, a large Brazilian daily, was his vehicle of choice - he would appear on a popular show similar to "60 Minutes" to talk up his latest bombshell.

"Snowden became almost a household name after that," said Maurício Santoro, a Rio-based human rights advocate for Amnesty International.

And then Greenwald found the document about the surveillance on Dilma's phone calls, text messages and emails, and all hell broke loose. "It wasn't a supertechnical document," Greenwald told me. "It was

written for an idiot. It was like, 'Great news. We have had great success eavesdropping on Dilma.'"

Perhaps just as infuriating to the Brazilian elites was the discovery that the NSA, along with Britain's secret spy agency, known as GCHQ, had apparently succeeded in penetrating the private computer network of Petrobras, a giant state-owned oil company and a source of national pride.

"Why did they have to do this to us?" asked Santoro, posing the question many Brazilians still want answered. "Of course we have our disagreements with the U.S., but we are not enemies. What has also been maddening has been the lack of a clear explanation from the Obama administration," he added.

Yet for all that, Santoro doesn't think that Brazil will give Snowden asylum. So far, the government has been coy, saying that because Snowden has not applied for asylum through the proper channels, there is nothing to talk about. The way it was explained to me, though, Brazil prefers to use what it likes to call "soft power" on the world stage - global consensus building, that sort of thing. Helping to create an Internet governance system fits nicely in that model. Giving Snowden asylum does not.

Meanwhile, the U.S. government shows no signs of softening its stance of trying Snowden for espionage if it gets its hands on him. It's worth remembering that another important whistleblower, Daniel Ellsberg, was eventually put on trial for leaking the Pentagon Papers. The case was thrown out of court largely because of government misconduct, starting with the break-in of the office of Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

At least as it concerns the NSA, government misconduct is now official policy. We know that thanks to Snowden. He needs a place to live. Why not you, Brazil? □



# Winter Olympics' Sochi: A Landscape From A Dream

**JIM HEINTZ**

**Associated Press**

**SOCHI, Russia (AP)** — For visitors to the Winter Olympics, Sochi may feel like a landscape from a dream — familiar and strange at once. Palm trees evoke a tropical seaside resort, but the Black Sea itself is seriously cold; turn away from the palms and the jagged, snow-covered peaks of the Caucasus Mountains rise nearby. Lively and gar-

Some questions and answers about the resort city often called the Russian Riviera:

## AM I IN SOCHI?

Rather like New York City, Sochi is a sprawling municipality, incorporating four boroughs. Confusingly, one of the four is called Sochi. So it's possible to both be in Sochi and say "I'm going to Sochi."

All the Olympic events

ants.

## WILL THEY UNDERSTAND ME (AND VICE VERSA)?

Volunteer staff at Olympics test events spoke excellent English and sometimes struck up conversations just to improve their skills (or show off). But outside the Olympic venues and large hotels, communication in languages other than Russian is likely to be difficult. The Games' organizing

a homey atmosphere.

## HOW'S THE WEATHER?

Rain, snow, sun, fog, warm-ish, cold — a few days at the Olympics likely will include them all. On the coast, where the ice sports and opening and closing ceremonies take place, daytime temperatures should be around 50 F (10 C) and freezing is unlikely. In the mountains, temperatures generally don't get

out additional items, so potatoes and other vegetables must be ordered separately. Russia has a wine industry of sorts, but refined palates may find it disappointing. Vodka, seen as both Russia's treasure and its curse, is often ordered by the gram, with 100 grams (3.5 ounces) the standard to get the night started. Sochi also a good place to sample the food of nearby Georgia, including the renowned cheese-filled hot bread called khachapuri and tsatsivi, chicken in walnut sauce, and the plum-based soup kharcho.

## WHAT CAN I DO BESIDES WATCH SPORTS?

Downtown Sochi and Adler both have long and appealing seaside promenades, complete with tacky souvenir stands, lively bars and restaurants. Sochi also has an attractive passenger harbor, whose spired terminal is one of the city's standout buildings, and an art museum.

The most idiosyncratic attraction may be Sochi's extensive mountainside botanical garden, the Dendrium, with an unusual array of plants showing the variable climate. Sochi has long been a choice destination for Russia's political elite. Joseph Stalin's summer residence in Zeleni Mys even features a wax mannequin of the dictator at his desk.

A swim in the Black Sea may make an unusual Winter Olympics memory. The beaches are stony and the water temperature will be around 50 F (10 C); concerns have been raised about pollution in the sea around Dagomys, north of downtown Sochi. Although most of Sochi's sports facilities will be devoted to the games, the Gornaya Karusel ski area expects to have some slopes open to the public, organizers say. A classic Russian way to while away an afternoon is a trip to the banya, like a sauna but somewhat steamier. If your hotel doesn't have one, it can likely recommend a good one nearby. □



**Snowboarders and skiers rest after competitions, in Rosa Khutor, some 60 km east of the Black Sea resort of Sochi, Russia. For visitors to the Winter Olympics, Sochi may feel like a landscape from a dream - familiar and strange at once. Palm trees evoke a tropical seaside resort, but the Black Sea itself is seriously cold; turn away from the palms and the jagged, snow-covered peaks of the Caucasus Mountains rise nearby.**

(AP Photo/Ivan Sekretarev)

ish modern buildings mix with Stalin Gothic piles, like trophy wives on the arms of elderly men. Billboards are written in an alphabet where some letters sound exactly like you think they do, others mean something else and the rest are flat-out alien. What may seem oddest of all is the city's cheerful and relaxed aura in a country stereotyped as dour. Even a local statue of Vladimir Lenin catches the casual vibe. He's not haranguing the masses, just standing under some trees with one hand in his pocket as if he's killing time waiting for a date.

take place in the Adler borough, though the snow sports venues are often referred to as being in specific settlements such as Krasnaya Polyana and Esto-Sadok.

Sochi borough is more or less the Manhattan of the city, home to the best restaurants, coolest clubs and the main cultural institutions. The urban part of Adler also has attractive restaurants. But while its attractions are relatively cosmopolitan, and its coastline is 90 miles long (145 kilometers), Sochi is not a big city population-wise, with only about 350,000 inhabit-

committee recommends that mobile device users download a translation app. The Cyrillic alphabet isn't as hard as it may look, and spending a couple of hours to master it brings sizeable rewards. Russian has many loanwords from English, French and German, so being able to sound out words can make the place pop into better focus. For example, knowing that "teatp" is pronounced "teater," it's a reasonable and correct guess that it means "theater." Note that bars advertising "xayc" are offering "house" music and not

severely cold; at the lower elevations, where ski-jumping and sliding sports take place, the prospect of rain and above-freezing temperatures is a concern.

## WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

Russian cooking can be hard on the waistline but good for the taste buds. Even nominally low-calorie soups such as the beet-based borscht boost their count when a typical large dollop of sour cream is added. Pelmeni, dumplings filled with minced meat or vegetables, meet almost everyone's taste. Entrees often come with-